ETAH:

A GAZETTEER,

BEING

VOLUME XII

OF THE

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

BY

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GAZETTEER OF ETAH

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PREFACE.

THIS volume is a revision of the Gazetteer of the Etah district prepared by Mr. E. T. Atkinson, and published in 1876. In compiling it I have made use of the Settlement Report of the late Mr. H. O. W. Roberts, I.C.S., and of material collected by several District Officers. I am particularly indebted to Mr. W. B. Cotton, I.C.S., for the assistance he has rendered me.

NAINI TAL:
July 1909.

E. R. N.

GAZETTEER OF ETAH.

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ABBREVIATIONS.

J. R. A. S.—Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.

J. A. S. B.—Journal of the Bengal Asiatic Society.

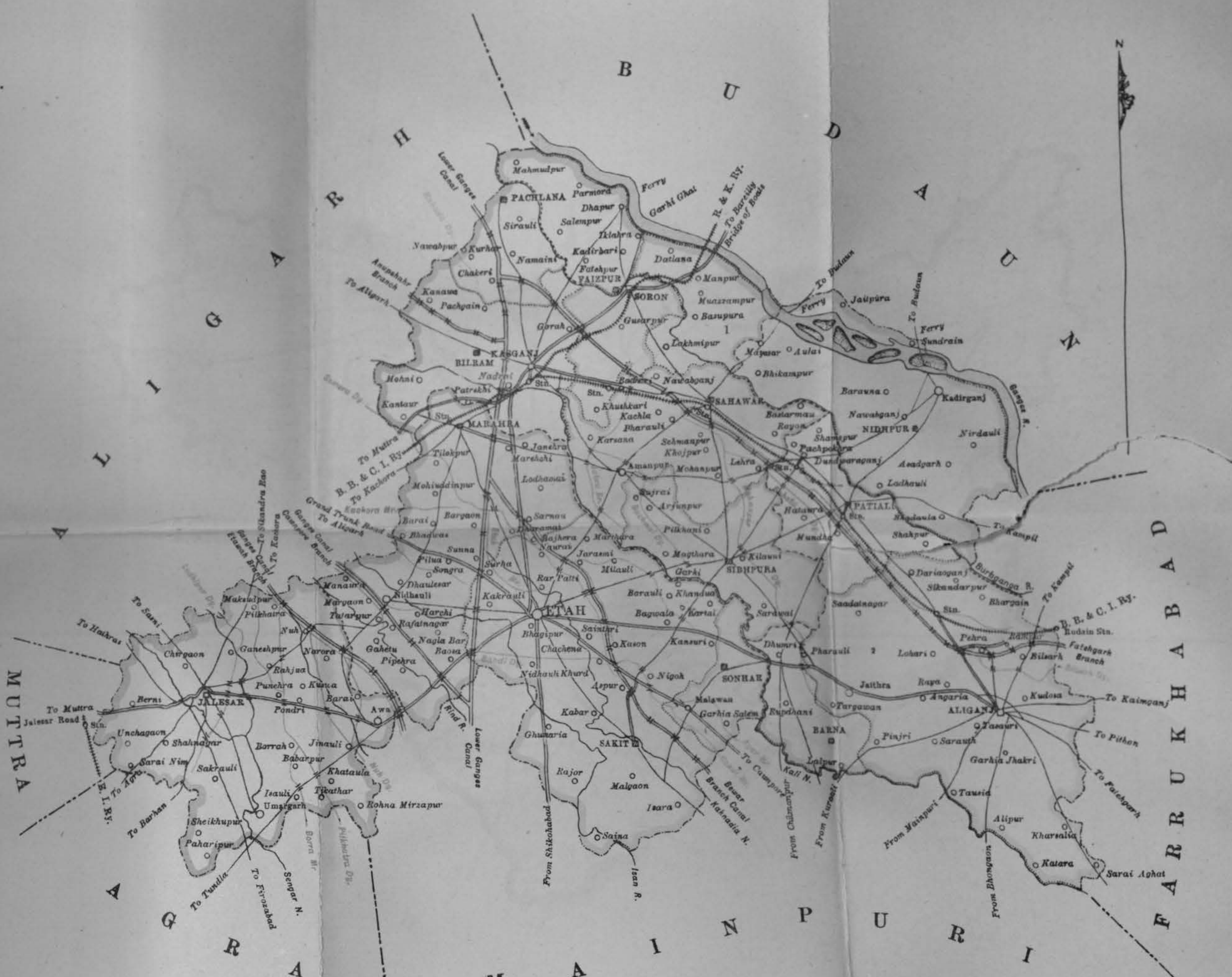
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DISTRICT

ETAH.

Scale—1 Inch = 8 Miles.

10 5 0 10 Miles.



REFERENCES

Chief Town	ETAH
Tahsil	JALESAR
Pargana Capital	BILRAM
Police Station	Nidhauli
Village	Unchagaon
District Boundary	
Tahsil "	
Pargana "	
Railway	
Metalled Road	
Unmetalled Road	
Canal	
Pargana Aulai	1
Pargana Azamnagar	2

...hi. and Litho. Dept., Thomason College, Roorkee.

Litho., November 188[illegible] —No. [illegible]

CHAPTER I.

General Features.

The district of Etah lies in the central portion of the Ganges and Jamna duab, and is bounded on the north by the Ganges, which separates it from the Budaun district; on the west by the districts of Aligarh, Muttra and Agra; on the south by Agra and Mainpuri, and on the east by Farrukhabad. The district lies between the parallels of 27°18′ and 28°2′ north latitude, and 78°11′ and 79°17′ east longitude, and is of very irregular shape, the Jalesar tahsil running out in a long promontory between the adjoining districts of Aligarh, Muttra and Agra, and both Etah-Sakit and Aliganj thrusting out large wedges of their territory into the Mainpuri district. The total area, according to the recent survey, is 1,101,996 acres, or 1,722 square miles. The greatest length from south-west to north-east is 62 miles, and from north to south a line drawn through the town of Etah measures 43 miles. **Boundaries and area.**

The district is divided into two sections by the Kali Nadi, flowing from north-west to south-east, and this river, the Ganges and the Burhganga, an old bed of the latter, govern the physical characteristics of the country. Speaking generally it may be said that the area to the south-west of the Kali Nadi, consisting of the Jalesar and Etah tahsils and comprising rather less than half the total area, is a fertile tract of stable cultivation, while the northern portion, which includes the tahsils of Kasganj and Aliganj, is the very reverse, being subject to remarkable vicissitudes of fortune and sensitively responsive to any abnormal variations of season and rainfall. There is also a general tendency to deterioration from west to east throughout the district. Topographically there are four distinct tracts: first the lowlands between the river Ganges and its old high bank; second the upland between that bank and the crest of the Kali Nadi bank; third the valley of the Kali Nadi; and fourth the tract south of the river. **Topography.**

The *tarai* tract.

The first or *tarai* tract, stretching from the present bed of the Ganges to its old high bank, which is usually at some distance—in places as much as ten miles—to the south of the Burhganga, is about 399 square miles in extent. This tract comprises the whole parganas of Faizpur-Badaria, Aulai and Nidhpur, more than half of pargana Soron, about one-third of Patiali, and portions of Pachlana, Sahawar and Azamnagar. The soils throughout are of an alluvial character, differing from the soils of the upland in that they apparently contain a larger admixture of vegetable matter. Even where the proportion of the sand is high they are soft to the touch and resemble rather artificial soils, the composts of the gardener, than natural earth. It is probably this high proportion of vegetable matter that enables them to grow relatively richer crops than the corresponding soils of the upland. Wheat, for instance, is constantly grown in soils which in other parts of the district would be regarded as too sandy for it. The most valuable of the *tarai* soils is the rich soft loam found along the edge of the Ganges, of which the distinguishing feature is that it will grow sugar without irrigation. Similar but less valuable soil is met with along the edge of the Burhganga. Between the two the level lies higher and the quality of the soil deteriorates from north to south, being very sandy just above the Burhganga. South of that stream there is always a considerable stretch of very poor soil, either wind-blown sand or barren *usar*; but towards the high bank there is a great improvement and we come into rather lowlying but rich soil usually under sugar in the west of the district and wheat in the east.

The sub-soil throughout this tract is sand, the pure white sand of the Ganges bed, and the fertility of a given tract depends more upon the depth than the quality of the alluvial deposit with which the sand is covered. The surface is everywhere uneven, following, though with less marked variations, the contours of the underlying sand; so that the hollows, which were the first to catch the alluvial deposit, are richer than the ridges.

The central duab.

It is convenient to use for the second tract the term central duab, though, as already explained, it is not absolutely accurate, the northern boundary being the old high bank of the Ganges

and not the Burhganga itself. This comprises the major portion of parganas Pachlana, Bilram, Soron, Sahawar, Sirhpura, Patiali, Barna and Azamnagar, with an area of about 428 square miles. The character of the soils in this tract depends largely upon the distance between the Kali Nadi and the old high bank of the Ganges. At the western boundary of the district the distance is about 13 miles. The Kali Nadi is then running east, while the trend of the high bank is to the south-east with the result that when pargana Sahawar is reached the distance has shrunk to about eight miles. From that point to the commencement of pargana Barna it varies from 8 to 10 miles. At the junction of parganas Sirhpura and Barna the Kali Nadi takes a sweep to the south, and the distance rapidly extends to 16 miles. A reversion to its original course again lessens the distance; but about level with the town of Aliganj the Kali Nadi turns to the south and the high bank northwards, and from thence to the boundary of the district there is a continually increasing divergence. The crest of each river is marked by a belt of sand, and it is a well marked characteristic of this tract that wherever they approach one another these ridges stretch out as though to join hands, forming an almost continuous sea of sand from one river to the other. Where, on the contrary, they diverge, the sand seems to shrink in, and the centre of the tract is occupied by a level plain of loam and *usar*. Elsewhere the surface is uneven, the sand being pitted with hollows and depressions in which water collects and which contain a little firmer soil.

The subsoil in this tract is nearly everywhere sandy, and as a consequence the natural irrigation is deficient. In places, as in the east of Aliganj and near Sahawar, we come upon a firm subsoil, but such tracts stand out as entirely distinct from the rest of the Duab, resembling in stablity and fertility the country south of the Kali Nadi, and they are unfortunately few and far between.

The Kali Nadi valley.

The width of the valley of the Kali Nadi varies according as the descent to the lowland is gradual or abrupt. On the southern bank and the eastern half of the northern bank this descent is almost everywhere gradual. But in the western half

of the northern bank the descent is in many places fairly sudden, often with a kind of steppe between the crest and the valley bottom. The soil on these steppes though sandy is usually very fertile and capable of high cultivation, and chosen as the position for the village site.

The lowest portion of the valley is usually that at the foot of the high bank where the soil is always rich but liable to swamping. This is especially the case where the drainage channels from the upland make their way down. These, instead of running directly out to the river, generally turn and run more or less parallel to it for some little distance. Almost universally the soil on the immediate margin of the stream is a good loam, well raised and not too stiff, and this belt is commonly the best and least uncertain portion of the valley. Sometimes soil similar to that on the river bank extends nearly back to the rise to the upland. This is more often the case in the west of the district than in the east, deterioration from west to east being, as already stated, a marked feature of the district. More commonly however this central part is inferior to the rest of the valley, and if raised is sandy or if lowlying is infected with *reh*.

The stream of the Kali Nadi does not change its course and there is no diluvion. The whole valley is however liable to flooding when the river rises with heavy rain, and the autumn crops are rarely grown. As a rule, the valley dries in time to permit of sowings for the spring harvest, and the crops are luxuriant. But in seasons of heavy rain, especially if that rain comes late in the season, sowing may be impossible, or possible only after very inadequate preparation of the soil.

The southern tract.

The tract south of the Kali Nadi comprises pargana Jalesar, practically the whole of pargana Marehra and Etah-Sakit, two-thirds of pargana Sonhar and a portion of pargana Bilram. Its area may be put at 675 square miles. This tract is distinguished by the absence of sandy soil, and is by far the richest portion of the district, as also the most stable. The prevailing soil is a good loam, and the barren area consists almost entirely of *usar*. As we proceed south towards the Isan, which runs through the southern portions of parganas Marehra and Etah-Sakit, the soil becomes stiffer and clay is more frequent. On the opposite side

of the Isan the converse in the case. The stiffest soil is in the north, and this is followed by good loam and then by lighter loams. The Isan in fact marks the centre of the Kali Nadi-Jamna duab and the southern portions of pargana Jalesar are beginning to feel the influence of the latter river. And the soils, following what appears to be the universal rule of these provinces, become lighter as they approach it. The subsoil in most parts is firm so that irrigation is easy. In the extreme south-west however the spring level sinks to a marked degree, increasing materially the cost of raising water. Moreover with this fall in the level the water becomes brackish and cannot be used for irrigation in the earlier stages of growth. The weed *baisurai* also makes its appearance in the south-west, which is thus markedly poorer than the rest of the tract.

Rivers. It will be seen from the foregoing description that the four chief rivers, the Ganges, the Burhganga, the Kali Nadi and the Isan, are, as it were, the skeleton on which are moulded the physical features of the district.

The Ganges. The Ganges practically forms for some 32 miles the northern boundary of the district, though a few villages have lands on either side, and now flows at a distance varying from three to ten miles from its old high bank. Tradition asserts the change in the river's course to have taken place some eight or nine hundred years ago, but there is good reason for referring it to some period subsequent to the reign of Akbar.* The river is now tending to return towards its old bed, and there has been a good deal of diluvion recently, which is still continuing. The Ganges is crossed during the cold weather by bridges of boats at Kachhlaghat and Kadirganj, ferries being substituted during the rains. The Ganges is the only river in the district on which boats of any size can be navigated, but the use of the river as an artery of commerce has now almost entirely ceased. The merchants of Kasganj, who used to send down large quanties of cotton, indigo and oil-seeds to Kachla-ghat for transmission down the Ganges, now employ the railway, and the river boatman's occupation is gone. The castes, such as Mallahs, Kahars and Dhimars, who nominally live by industries connected with the rivers, have for the most

* Beames' Elliot, II, p. 29.

part turned cultivators; eking out their resources by fishing when occasion serves.

The Burh-ganga.

The former bed of the Ganges is marked by the Burhganga. This stream flows as a rule at a considerable distance from the old high bank, which is locally known as the *pahar* and has a mean height of about 20 feet above the lower plain, rising at times to 30 or 40 feet and varying considerably in appearance at different places. Sometimes it descends with a gentle slope to the lowlands, into which it imperceptibly disappears, at others it rises abruptly like a wall, or juts out into the plain like the bastion of some huge fort. The current of the Burhganga is sluggish and its course tortuous, blocked in many places by sand-spills and weeds. It is thus unable to cope with a rainfall at all above the normal and floods are common and of long continuance, while the lands in its neighbourhood are liable to waterlogging. A great deal has however been done since 1891 by the irrigation department to improve the drainage of this stream. Its bed has been excavated and straightened and is annually inspected with a view to keeping it clear of weeds.

The Kali Nadi.

The Kali Nadi or Kalindi, as it is often called locally, flows to the south of the Burhganga at a distance of from seven to seventeen miles. Entering the Etah district from Aligarh in the north-west its general trend is to the south-east, and it finally becomes the southern boundary of the Aliganj tahsil. Its total length in the district is about sixty-five miles. The valley through which the river flows is deep and about three miles in width from crest to crest, and though the stream floods readily, its inundations, however long continued, never extend outside their valley. There are bridges over the Kali on the Hathras road at the 32nd and 33rd miles and at Nadrai. At this crossing a bridge was originally built about 130 years ago by a man of the Teli caste, but suffered from the fault common to most bridges of indigenous design of having the diameter of the piers much in excess of the waterway. In 1878, when the aqueduct conveying the Lower Ganges Canal across the river was built, it was found necessary to remove this bridge which was replaced by one of more modern construction. A railway bridge was built as well in 1884. On the 17th July in the

following year unusually heavy rain in the districts of Aligarh and Bulandshahr brought about the worst flood on record. The Kali came down in spate and swept away the aqueduct and both the new bridges, destroying at the same time hundreds of lives and wrecking the whole valley. In addition to the loss of crops, houses and cattle, some of the land of the riverside villages was carried bodily away and some injured by a deposit of sterile sand. A new and magnificent aqueduct designed by Lieutenant-Colonel Home, R.E., now carries the canal across the river. It took four years to build and cost Rs. 25,83,487. The two bridges were replaced in 1886 by an iron one of nine spans which serves the double purpose of the railway and the road. The ruins of the old Teli's bridge still form a picturesque feature of the scenery at Nadrai. At Dhumri, on the Etah-Aliganj road, there is a bridge of boats which is removed in the rains, and ferry boats ply across instead. Other ferries are at On to the north of Etah on the Etah-Patiali road, at Lalpur-Jahangirabad on the road from Aliganj to Kuraoli, at Partabpur-Katara, and on the road from Etah to Sahawar. These ferries are kept up during the whole year as in the rains the river is not fordable, and at other seasons owing to its use as a canal escape its depth varies considerably. The Kali was in former years extensively used for irrigation, but the irrigation department has now prohibited the construction of *bands* and little use is now made of its water.

The Isan.

The Isan is apparently the outcome of a wide shallow depression which is said to be traceable from Sardhana in Meerut down to the border of this district. On the west it is still an ill-defined depression rather than a waterway, but it develops a distinct bed about half way across the district. Its level however is never much below that of the surrounding country. It has no *tarai*, the approach to it being merely marked by extensive stretches of somewhat lowlying clay lands, and it thus, when in flood, readily spreads over considerable stretches of country. Another branch, which runs through Jalesar and is better defined, is more commonly known as the Sirsa or Dhumri. There are bridges across the Isan where it is crossed by the

roads from Etah to Tundla, Shikohabad and Nidhauli, and from the latter place to Nagaria.

Other streams are the Arind or Ratwa or Rind, which flows through a portion of the south of the district beyond the Isan; though a considerable river in the rains, is in the cold and hot seasons almost entirely dry; and the Bagarh, which rises in the north-east of Azamnagar, where it forms a series of shallow depressions, deepening occasionally into *jhils*, and ultimately becomes a stream which flows into the Farrukhabad district. As a rule it dries up soon after the rains and its bed affords some good *tarai* cultivation. There are also several small tributaries of the Kali Nadi, such as the Nim, which flows into it at Barswa near Bilram, the Karon nala, which joins it near Mandri and is bridged in two places where it is crossed by the roads from Etah to Kasganj and Marehra; the Karna nala which falls into it near Dhumri, and the Bhongaon nala, which after passing about five miles from Aliganj joins it near Sarai Aghat.

Jhils.

The uneven surface and imperfect drainage of a large part of the district have caused the formation of considerable sheets of water in the numerous depressions. Most of these diminish very much in area during the cold and hot seasons, and some exist for a short time at the end of the rains. There are however a number which are perennial, though liable to great shrinkage in a year of drought. Among these the Rustamgarh *jhil* in pargana Marehra, the Mahota and Thana Dariaoganj *jhils* in pargana Azamnagar, the Sikandarpur *jhil* in Nidhpur and the Patna *jhil* in Jalesar, deserve the name of lakes. Smaller sheets of water are to be met with near Etah, Aliganj, Sahawar, Sakit, Northa in pargana Bilram, Pahladpur near Soron, Kasol and Awa. All are the haunt of thousands of water fowl during the cold weather, and, though they are not much used for irrigation, excellent crops are grown on the moist land left at their margins as the water dries up, while the shallower parts are planted with valuable crops of the *singhara* or water-nut. According to the figures of the recent survey, 26,516 acres in all, or 2·6 per cent. of the total area, are covered with water. But this includes the rivers, and separate statistics for the *jhils* are not available.

Drainage.

The previous pages will have given some idea of the natural drainage of the district as represented by its rivers. Though the district lies on the Ganges watershed the area that drains directly into that river is small, consisting only of a strip not more than six miles in width. In this tract the drainage is excellent, the Ganges forming an efficient outlet for any quantity of rain water. The same cannot be said for the next section of country to the south. Here the watershed lies about two miles south of the old high bank of the Ganges and the only outlet on the north is the Burhganga which, as already stated, is unequal to the task of carrying off a heavy fall. The rest of the northern portion of the district drains into the Kali Nadi which is capable of dealing with considerable volumes of water, and would give little trouble were the drainage approaches to it better. But these approaches are very unsatisfactory, consisting of shallow, ill-marked depressions, tortuous and obstructed by numerous ridges of sand. The result is that in years of heavy rainfall water collects in the depressions, spills from one to the other, destroying in its course the crops in the intervening lands, and instead of passing away to the river is absorbed in the sandy sub-soil, where it accumulates, causing a serious rise in the spring level. The extreme variations to which the level of this subsoil water is liable may be illustrated by the example of pargana Sahawar, for which the figures are available for a considerable period. In 1840 Mr. Edmonstone, who was revising the settlement, gave the spring level as lying at from 10 to 12 feet below the surface. At the next settlement Mr. Ridsdale put it at 20 feet, while at the time of Mr. Ferard's revision in 1891-92 water was within 5 or 6 feet of the surface, and the lower parts of the pargana were flooded. Measurements taken by the canal department between 1884 and 1888 in 31 selected wells showed a mean rise of 7·2 feet in that period, while further measurements in 25 of those wells, continued up to 1899, showed a fall of 3·2 feet. These statistics point to the fact that while excessive rainfall acts very speedily in raising the level, the subsequent fall is a slow and gradual process, and account for the long duration of the depression caused by supersaturation. Much has been done of late years to improve the

drainage. On the extreme west a cut has been made from the Burhganga to the Ganges through Alipur, and an embankment thrown across the Burhganga at this point. That river is thus relieved of the Aligarh drainage, which passes off direct to the Ganges. A series of cuts has also been made connecting all the large depressions in the *tarai* with the Burhganga, whose channel has been straightened by cutting across various bends while sand-spills and weeds have been cleared away.

In the upland several elaborate schemes of drainage have been carried out. The most westerly is the Jhabar system, which starts near the junction of pargana Pachlana with pargana Bilram, and serves both these parganas, discharging into the Kali Nadi at Barai Khera in pargana Sahawar. The large and important set of works known as the Sirhpura drainage serves the southern half of Sahawar and Sirhpura. The Mohanpur system deals with the west of Sahawar and the north and east of Sirhpura and with Patiali, discharging into the Kali Nadi near Dhumri. Another important drain, also part of the Mohanpur system, taps the numerous swampy depressions in the west and centre of pargana Azamnagar, discharging into the Kali Nadi near Pinjri. Finally the Baghar system carries off the very complicated drainage of the north and east of pargana Azamnagar.

South of the Kali Nadi the natural drainage is more efficient: but here also improvements have been effected. The most important works have been the digging out of the bed of the Isan and of the Karaon Nadi and the drainage operations in the neighbourhood of Etah itself. A proposal is also on foot to dig out the bed of the Kaknadi, an affluent of the Isan, and to divert it into the Kali Nadi. When this is done there should be very little trouble in the southern tract. In any case there is less danger here than in the central duab, for when water does collect it is in depressions filled with clay, by which it is kept on the surface and prevented to a great extent from soaking into the subsoil.

Waste land.

According to the recent survey the unculturable waste land of the district amounted to 110,594 acres, or 10 per cent. of the whole. Of this 11,871 acres consist of village sites, 26,516 acres

are under water, and 72,207 acres are otherwise barren. While both the former heads show increases of area since the last settlement, which can be accounted for by the increased accuracy of a professional survey, the last named has decreased by more than five-eighths, the previous figure being 192,239 acres. This is only to be explained by a new principle of classification under which land capable of growing any form of vegetation whatever, though it were only a few blades of grass or a few stunted *dhak* trees, has been returned as culturable. Such land, however, as it would never repay the cost and labour of cultivation, and is never in the least likely to be brought under the plough, would seem more properly to come under the description of barren waste, and the figures of the previous settlement, according to which about one-fifth of the total area is shown as unculturable waste, may be taken as coming nearer the mark.

The greater part of this waste consists of stretches of treeless *bhur*, and of *usar*, wide plains of which form the most striking feature of the landscape in the north of the Jalesar tahsil. In the *usar* land the soil is impregnated with certain salts of sodium, principally the carbonate, whose efflorescence covers the surface with the white impalpable *reh* which gives these dreary plains their characteristic appearance. Various theories have been advanced to account for the excess of sodium in these tracts and numerous experiments have been and are still being made in the reclamation of the *usar* soil,* but no rapid or inexpensive plan has yet been devised. It is stated that complete success has been obtained by the application of gypsum,† but this method is scarcely practicable on a large scale. A good deal has been done by the Raja of Awa on his estates. By watering the land with indigo water and manuring heavily with indigo refuse a few fields were reclaimed and the soil induced to bear flourishing crops. But the complete decay of the indigo industry has rendered this system impossible of continuance, while its cost would in any case have prevented its general adoption. He has also made *babul* plantations in other *usar* lands, and the trees are doing well, but whether the land will be fit for cultivation after the removal of the trees remains to be seen. Another experiment

*Agricultural ledger, 1897. | † loc. cit.

which has met with at least partial success is founded on the fact that the sodium salts are concentrated in the first few inches of surface soil. By enclosing land from grazing, and thus encouraging the grass to grow, the salts are caused, or allowed, to descend from the surface soil into the subsoil, where they diffuse themselves, leaving the surface sufficiently free to permit of the growth of crops. This however is a very slow process and the experiments have not yet been carried on sufficiently long for it to be known whether the practical results will bear out the theoretical conclusions. As far as our knowledge goes at present the plantation of trees, particularly the *babul,* would appear to be the only productive use to be made of this class of waste land. The efflorescence of *reh* is found in various parts of the district outside the regular *usar* plains, and in such areas the land is always poor, though not necessarily unculturable. The whole *tarai* tract in the neighbourhood of the Burhganga is in places infected with *reh* and it is bad in several villages in the east of Nidhpur, where there is reason to believe that it is spreading. In pargana Marehra a considerable increase in the *reh*-infected area was at one time attributed to the influence of the canal, but the general consensus of expert opinion is now opposed to this theory, and the canal is acquitted of responsibility, though in the neighbouring district of Mainpuri it was with equal unanimity found guilty of causing a similar phenomenon.

Jungles. There are no forests in the district and but little jungle, what there is consisting mainly of patches covered with *dhak* trees (*butea frondosa*). One of the largest stretches of jungle is that of Kachhyawara in pargana Azamnagar. Others are at Pinjri, Ahrai, Thana Dariaoganj and Rampur in the same pargana; at Utarna, Sikahra, and Arjunpur in pargana Sirhpura; at Mahadeo-ka-ban and Sonsa to the north of pargana Sonhar; Karhar in pargana Pachlana, and Sirsa Tibu on the Etah and Kasganj road in pargana Marehra. The *dhak* is largely used for fuel, and has diminished very considerably during the last fifty years, not much remaining of the belt, 10 *kos* in width, which used to continue into this district from Mainpuri, and afforded shelter to a good deal of game, and also to numerous bands of dacoits. These jungles are now principally used for grazing

cattle, the tribes engaged in this employment being Ahirs and Gadariyas, called professionally Charwayas, Chaupayas and Gwalas, who receive fees varying from one to four annas for each head of cattle under their charge. Besides the *dhak* jungles there are the *katris* or reed-producing lands along the Ganges and Burhganga, which are a source of some profit to the villages to which they belong. The long coarse grass (*gandar*), which is found all over them, is carefully gathered every year, and the longer and stouter reeds (*senta*) used for making chicks and thatching, while the smaller serve to make screens, cart-tilts and so forth. The *khas khas* grass is also found in swampy ground, especially in the Aliganj tahsil. This is the material used for the manufacture of door-tattis, while a perfume (*itr*) is also extracted from it. The gathering of these grass products of the jungle is almost entirely in the hands of the Kanjar caste. The commonest trees found in the district are, besides the *dhak*, the *babul* or *kikar* (*acacia arabica*) the *nim* (*melia azadirachta*) the *jamun* (*eugenia jambolana*) and *shisham* (*dalbergia sissoo*), the last named producing by far the most valuable timber.

In addition to the trees which grow wild in the waste lands and the scattered trees planted here and there among the fields, some 14,270 acres, or 1·3 per cent. of the total area of the district, are planted with groves, consisting principally of the mango tree, though most of the other common varieties of fruit and timber trees are to be found among them. Groves.

The proportion of the area devoted to groves does not vary very much from pargana to pargana, the widest departures from the district average being in the alluvial parganas of Faizpur-Badaria and Aulai, where the percentage is only ·6. Barna is the best furnished pargana in this respect, having 2 per cent. of its area covered with groves, while its immediate neighbours Azamnagar and Patiali are nearly as well off. Tree-planting would seem to be on the increase in the district, about one-eighth of the present area representing additions since the settlement of 1873. There is some reason to believe that much of the uneven sandy land near the crests of the river banks would actually pay better if planted with groves than it does under crops. Thakur Baldeo

Singh of Sarauth has recently been experimenting in this direction and it will be interesting to see the result.

Building materials.

There are no stone quarries in the district, and when stone is required for building purposes it has to be imported from Agra. But block *kankar*, or deposited limestone, which is found throughout the district, generally in the uplands, forms a very good substitute, and is used largely in the construction of bridges, wells and other buildings. Its durability is attested by the considerable remains of carved façades, pillars and other architectural ornaments which are still found lying about in good preservation on the old *kheras* or mounds which mark the sites of ancient and long vanished cities. In building the better class of houses bricks are chiefly employed, the ordinary cost of first-class well burned bricks, 9 inches by 4½ by 9 being Rs. 10 per thousand. Lime burned from *bichua kankar* with cowdung and other refuse costs about Rs. 25 per 100 maunds, 100 cubic feet of *kankar* yielding 75 cubic feet of ground lime and 100 cubic feet of unground lime, while the cost of burning is about Rs. 2 per 100 maunds. The principal use of *kankar* is for metalling roads, and the cost of digging and stacking 100 cubic feet of it at the quarry is about Rs. 2. The cost of carriage per 100 cubic feet is ten annas per mile for three miles and under, and for over three miles eight annas a mile, and that of consolidation for the same quantity is a rupee, so that the metalling of a road 12 feet wide and 4½ inches in depth at Rs. 3-12-0 per 100 cubic feet costs nearly Rs. 900 a mile. The ordinary compensation for disturbance to the owner of the land covering the *kankar* quarry is four annas per 100 cubic feet. Of the timbers used in building the imported *sal* timber is the best, but is expensive, costing Rs. 4 per cubic foot. Next best is *shisham*, which is rather scarce and costs about Rs. 2, while *nim*, *mahua*, tamarind and *jamun* are fairly plentiful and can be had for Re. 1-8-0. The common mango wood, which is universally used for inferior work, costs only Re. 1 per cubic foot.

Fauna.

Wild animals are fairly numerous in Etah, though none of the larger carnivora, except wolves, actually reside in it, leopards being rare visitors. Wolves are very scarce and the 78 for which rewards were granted in 1900 probably included many jackals,

the numbers rarely running into two figures in other years. Wild cattle used to be fairly plentiful in the *dhak* jungles round Jaithra and Arjunpur in pargana Sirhpura, but their numbers have been steadily decreasing and only one herd now remains as Shahbazpur on the Ganges and another at Karoli Sohagpur near Jaira. The *nilgai* (*boselaphus tragocamelus*) too is now rare, being found only here and there in the Jaithra jungles near Umargarh in the Jalesar tahsil, and at Shahbazpur. The hog deer (*cervus porcinus*) is found along the Ganges, particularly at Kadirganj, which is probably the lowest limit of its occurrence in these provinces. The wild pig is found in decreasing numbers on the Ganges and to some extent in *dhak* and thorn jungle all over the district. A greater nuisance to the cultivator is the black buck, herds of which are to be met with in most parts of the district, more especially in the Jalesar tahsil, but a head of over 18 inches is a rarity. The piety of former Rajas of Awa, rigid adherents of the Vaishnava cult, protected them in past times, but this protection is now removed. Of smaller animals the porcupine and the hedgehog—called *parbati chuha*, " the rat of the goddess Parbati," or *kanta chuha*, " the prickly rat"—are both common in Jalesar, while an occasional specimen of the rare desert fox, the badger (*bijju*) and the armadillo (*salu samp*) sometimes makes its way up from the ravines of the Jamna. Pea-fowl are everywhere abundant, and are generally protected by village superstition. The wild-fowl for which the northern part of the district was once famous have been driven to seek other resting places by the drainage operations which have been carried out along the Burhganga valley, and, though snipe are still abundant, the duck only settle in the places where the stream widens out into a *jhil*. The grey and black partridge are both fairly common, the latter more particularly near the Burhganga, and hares and pigeons are both plentiful, the huge flocks of the latter which frequent the Jalesar tahsil in the cold weather being indeed quite a notable feature of the district. Sand-grouse are found in small numbers and the imperial grouse very occasionally.

Fish. There is not much fishing in the district, as there are few large lakes and rivers, and Kahars and Dhimars, the only castes who engage in fishing, only do so as a casual resource at certain seasons. Though most of the castes found in the district eat fish, little is brought to market and it seldom fetches more than one anna a pound. In the Ganges and the deeper pools of the Kali Nadi the sweep-net is employed, while in the shallower parts of the latter stream in the hot and cold weather the stream is dammed and then netted, or a casting net with a mesh of one-third of an inch is made use of. The same method is resorted to in the tanks and *jhils* and sometimes fish are taken on a hook and line. There are several varieties of fish found in the district, the most common being the *lanchi*, *bhur*, *rohu*, *saur*, *senth*, *kadhu*, *kench* and *genr*. The pools left in the Lower Ganges canal when it is emptied during the monsoon give excellent sport with a rod and line.

Cattle. Etah has no breed of cattle peculiar to itself, the animals used for agricultural purposes being of the usual small, thin, wiry breed common to the duab. Down in the west of the Jalesar tahsil the cattle are noticeably finer than in the rest of the district, probably owing to the neighbourhood of the great grazing grounds across the Jamna. But another reason arises out of the needs of the tract. Whereas in the greater part of the district the spring level is high and the labour of well-irrigation consequently light, in the region west of the Isan the deep spring level makes a much more powerful type of animal necessary to work the wells, and a pair of bullocks, which elsewhere could be bought for Rs. 25 to 50, will there cost from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100.

The favourite bullock for work at the wells is the smallish but active and plucky beast reared in the ravines of the Chambal. The improvement of the inferior local breed of cattle has been a good deal neglected in the past; but the matter has been taken up by the late Raja of Awa, who imported a number of good bulls and started a breeding farm at Awa which ought in time to have a considerable influence in raising the standard. Enquiries made on the Raja's estate have brought out strongly the value of the cow-buffalo to the cultivator of the duab. There are two

varieties, one giving a calf each year (*barasi*) and the other calving every second year (*dobarasi*). The value of these two kinds is about the same. A good animal will give on an average 8 *sers* of milk per diem. This will produce about 120 *sers* of clarified butter, worth Rs. 60 per annum, and the calf will be worth Rs. 10, or Rs. 70 in all. The cost of feeding the animal while it is in milk will be about Rs. 5 per mensem, or Rs. 40 in all, leaving a cash profit of Rs. 30 per annum. This leaves out of sight the value of the buttermilk (*mattha*) and the dung. It is not easy to say what the buttermilk is worth. If the owner lives near a city there is some sale of it to the lowest class of the population. But the price is nominal—about two maunds to the rupee or say 20 gallons for a shilling. In villages there is no sale for it : in fact it is considered rather a disreputable action to sell it. The cultivator and his family consume as much of it as they like and give the rest back to the buffalo and her calf, or distribute it to beggars. But on the other hand it saves grain, and a cultivator with one buffalo would be able to reduce his expenditure of grain by a *ser* per diem or 30 *sers* a month. This, supposing the grain to be one of the millets which are the ordinary food of the people, would be worth at least Rs. 12 in eight months. Further, though the buttermilk has not much cash value, it is almost the only animal food the Indian cultivator gets, and for the young children it is one of the necessaries of life. A buffalo too is a valuable means of raising money in an emergency, as the village shopkeeper will always give an advance on the season's butter, the usual amount advanced in the district on an ordinary buffalo being Rs. 16, while the animal itself is always good security for a loan. In all then the annual income from the sale of the butter and the calf *plus* the saving in grain effected by the consumption of the buttermilk will be about Rs. 80, while the cost of the animal's keep amounts to Rs 40. There is thus a profit of Rs. 40, which will, in ordinary cases, about pay the rent.

Cattle census.

The first regular cattle census was taken in 1899, the second census was taken in 1904 and the last in 1909. The statistics for earlier censuses, consisting as they do of the unchecked

estimates of patwaris, are of little value. A comparison of the results of each census shows some rather remarkable variations. The number of bulls and bullocks enumerated at the first census was 180,005. It fell to 178,116 at the following census and at the last census it was lower still, *viz.* 157,760. Cows, of which there were 94,820 in 1899, had diminished to 88,066 in 1904 and to 68,343 in 1909. The same steady decrease is found in the case of male buffaloes, which numbered 22,864 in 1899, 21,547 in 1904, and 20,230 in 1909. In the case however of cow-buffaloes the increase has been continuous, *viz.* from 93,769 in 1899 to 107,079 in 1904 and to 108,006 in 1909, while in the case of young stock of all kinds there was an increase at the second census from 180,873 to 194,326, but a falling off at the last census to 174,742.

The total head of cattle in the district has thus decreased by 60,053 as compared with the 1904 census and by 43,250 as compared with the census of 1899. The plough animals at the 1904 census were 199,663 as against 201,816 in 1899, or a decrease of 2,153—the average per plough being 2·23 against 2·35. The average is a little below the provincial average.

It may be noted that the figures given in the report of the recent land revenue settlement (1904-05) differ materially from these. According to the settlement officer the number of ploughs in the district is 81,844 and the number of plough-cattle 171,205, which gives an average of 2·09 animals per plough. Taking the figures for the cultivated area given in the settlement report, *viz.* 705,867 acres, the average plough duty comes to 8·6 acres, which is well above the provincial average of 7·62, while, if the number of ploughs returned at the latest cattle census be accepted, the average sinks to 7·9, which is still above that of the provinces.

Horses and ponies.

According to the 1909 census there were altogether 13,522 horses and ponies in the district. These are for the most part of the ordinary type so common in the province, of small size and little strength or speed, and cost from 20 to 30 rupees apiece. Larger animals fetch from 40 to 70 rupees, while the wealthier classes go for their horses to the Batesar fair in the Agra district and pay from 150 to 300 rupees for them. A certain amount has been done both by the Government and by private effort to improve the breed of horses in the district. Up to 1905 an Arab stallion

stood at Etah, and the records show that an average of 40 foals were bred from it yearly. Then it had to be destroyed for dourine, and financial considerations have hitherto unfortunately stood in the way of its replacement.

Other animals.

The other domestic animals are not deserving of any special note. There were 40,334 sheep and 95,225 goats in the district in 1909. These are of the ordinary kinds and are kept, the sheep for their wool, the goats for their hair and for milking, while both are of great value in adding to the inadequate supply of manure. There were 10,301 donkeys, used for the most part by Dhobis and Kumhars, 95 mules and 502 camels. These last however are usually brought in from other districts by traders and are not much employed by natives of the district, carts and pack bullocks representing the ordinary local means of transport.

Cattle diseases.

There is always a certain amount of cattle disease in the district, but the statistics are untrustworthy The district board has employed an itinerary veterinary assistant since 1898, and it is his duty to visit any village where an outbreak of disease is reported and to attend to sick cattle. He also inoculates against rinderpest and anthrax, but only at the owners' request, and hitherto the apathy of the cultivator, coupled with his inveterate suspicion of novelties in medical procedure, has prevented much use being made of this method of prophylactic treatment. In 1908 a veterinary hospital was opened in Etah city and its progress will be watched with interest.

Climate.

The climate of Etah varies between remarkable extremes. The hot weather is characterized by an intense dry heat, while sand and dust storms are of almost daily occurrence. In the cold weather on the other hand there is generally a piercing wind which renders the air exceedingly cold. It is however a healthy district on the whole. The rains generally cease about the end of September, and the cold weather sets in a month later, lasting until the end of February.

Rainfall.

Records of the rainfall are kept at the four tahsil headquarters of Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj and Jalesar and are available from 1864 onwards. From these it appears that the district average is 29·2 inches, but that the variations from the normal are

very wide, the totals ranging from 13·05 inches in 1905 to 42·28 inches in 1879. The local variations are also considerable, the eastern portion of the district almost always receiving more rain than the western. In Aliganj a fall of over 30 inches is common, while one of 40 inches is not infrequently exceeded. The district is unfortunately only too susceptible to deviations from the normal rainfall, particularly to deviations in excess, and a cycle of wet years is always fraught with serious trouble to the local agriculturist. Such a cycle occurred in 1885-89 when the district average for the five years was 34·9, while in Aliganj the average was 40·79, over 55 inches being received in 1888. During these years the rainfall was not only exceptionally heavy, but it was prolonged to an unusually late date in the season. The result was a period of acute agricultural depression to which reference has already been made, and the effects of which have hardly yet passed away. In the four years from 1893-96 the average fall was nearly as heavy, *viz.* 33·2 inches, but it was received earlier in the season, and much less mischief was done. Since then the district has, like the rest of the province, been passing through a dry cycle of years, and has had the opportunity of recovering from the excessive moisture. These years have shown that its network of canals protects it against drought. It remains to be seen whether the new drainage works will be equally effective against swamping. If so, Etah would seem now to be proof against all vagaries of rainfall.

Health. The healthiness or otherwise of the district can best be illustrated by an examination of the vital statistics. As elsewhere these are somewhat vitiated by inaccurate registration, especially in earlier years, but none the less they are of considerable value as representing the general condition and affording a basis of comparison for different years and periods. Records of deaths are in existence for every year from 1871 onwards, but during the first decade, or at any rate up to 1877, the figures are obviously too low, ranging from 18 to 25 per mille. For the whole decade the average death-rate obtained from the official figures is 29·62 per mille, but this is swollen by the abnormal death-rates of the famine year of 1878, when the mortality rose to 36·80 per mille, and of 1879, the year of the terrible fever

epidemic, when it reached 80·61 per mille. During the next ten years, for which the figures are more trustworthy, the average number of deaths to every thousand of the population was 33·70, the maximum being 41·98 in 1884, when the ravages of small-pox were experienced in an extreme form, and the minimum 24·23 in the preceding year. For the last ten years of the century the average death-rate was 32·40, varying from 23·62 in 1893 to 41·75 in 1899, when fever prevailed to a most unusual extent. During the opening years of the present century the average death-rate has risen to 36·17, an increase due to serious out-breaks of plague in 1905 and 1907, which brought the annual rate up to 45·10 and 43·26 per mille for those years respectively. Returns of births are available from 1879 onwards and show a consistent and satisfactory excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate except during the period between 1884 and 1890, when the prosperity of the district was at its lowest ebb and the acute agricultural distress caused by the abnormal rainfall was reflected in a serious decline in population. Altogether the vital statistics show that while Etah cannot be considered one of the most healthy districts of the provinces there has been a considerable improvement of late years, and the death-rate has been lowered appreciably as compared with that of the adjoining districts, as well as with the provincial average. The vital statistics from 1891 onwards will be found in a table in the appendix.

Fever. Another table given in the appendix shows the chief causes of death. The accuracy of this however can only be regarded as approximate, as the responsibility for the diagnosis of the diseases which have caused death rests, in the vast majority of cases, entirely with the village chaukidar. Fever heads the list, as in other districts, by a large number, but the term covers not only malarial fever, but also influenza, pneumonia, phthisis, debility, and all the other common diseases of which fever is only a symptom. Between 1871, the year for which records are first available, and 1880 the annual mortality averaged 24·45 per thousand of the total population, rising to over 77 per mille in the epidemic year of 1879. In the next decade the proportion was just under 28 per mille. Nothing resembling an epidemic occurred during this period and the consistently higher figures are probably to be

ascribed in part to more accurate and complete registration and in part to the unusually heavy rainfall of those years. During the last ten years of the century the average was 23 per mille, the greatest mortality occurring in 1899 when fever accounted for over 74 per cent. of the total number of deaths recorded. From 1901 to 1907 the average annual mortality from fever was again 23 per mille, the maximum being 27·28 in 1903.

Cholera. As will be seen from the table, cholera has not prevailed in the district in an epidemic form since 1891, and the preceding twenty years for which statistics are available were no less fortunate in this respect. The highest mortality from this disease occurred in 1875 and 1887, when the deaths attributed to it amounted to 2·64 and 2·92 per mille of the total population respectively. In most years the number of deaths caused by cholera is insignificant, and in 1874, 1888, 1893, 1904 and 1905 the district was entirely free from it.

Plague. Plague made its first appearance in the district in 1904, but in that year caused only 1,008 deaths. In the following year however it assumed the proportions of a terrible epidemic and the mortality due to it rose to 12,203, or 14·12 per mille of the total population. In 1906 there was a lull, but in 1907 it again broke out in a virulent form and the mortality rose to 8,495, or 9·83 per mille of the total population. Even this figure is, however, insignificant when compared with the returns from some of the neighbouring districts. The usual preventive measures, consisting in the evacuation and disinfection of infected villages, inoculation, and the destruction of rats, have been attempted with varying degrees of success. Experience is gradually teaching the villagers of Etah, as of other districts, the advisability of quitting their villages as soon as any dead rats are noticed: but it has not yet been found possible to overcome their suspicions in regard to inoculation, and in 1907 only 27 persons were persuaded to subject themselves to the ordeal. The campaign against rats has been much more successful, no less than 16,654 being destroyed during the year.

Small-pox. Little remains to be said of the other diseases except small-pox. This occurs every year to a greater or less extent, and occasionally causes great loss of life. The worst year on record

was 1873, when the mortality rose to 7·17 per thousand of the total population, and another severe epidemic took place in the famine year of 1878, when the death-rate from this cause was over 6 per thousand. But these figures are quite exceptional, and the average annual mortality for the decade ending in 1880 was 1·77 per mille. This fell during the next ten years to ·84, and to ·49 between 1891 and 1900, while from the latter year until 1907 the annual average has only been ·11 per mille. The regular and striking decrease in the death-rate from small-pox manifested by these figures is no doubt to be attributed to the increasing popularity and general adoption of vaccination, the practice of which has been steadily spreading in the rural areas as well as the towns of the district. The numbers vaccinated increase every year, and the proportion of the younger population which is now protected is very large.

Infirmities. Statistics of infirmities have been collected since 1872 at each census. At the last enumeration there were 2,105 persons recorded as suffering from insanity, deaf-mutism, blindness and leprosy, a slight decrease from the figures of the previous census when the total was 2,155. There has however been an increase under two heads. In 1891 there were only 49 persons returned as insane, while in 1901 the number was 107. Though there has been a general increase of insanity throughout the province this rise much exceeds the average. There has also been a slight increase in the number of blind persons—from 1,549 to 1,562. On the other hand deaf-mutes have diminished in number from 395 to 279, and lepers from 162 to 157. As in other districts the number of males returned as suffering from infirmities far exceeds that of females the respective totals being 1,278 and 827, and there were only 19 women afflicted with leprosy to 138 men. It is possible that the difference may be partially due to concealments, the provincial average being 28·2 women to 100 men.

CHAPTER II.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

Cultivated area.

As described elsewhere, the physical characteristics of the district are of a nature to cause very considerable fluctuations in the area under the plough at any one time. Statistics with any pretensions to accuracy are not available before 1840, or in the case of Jalesar 1836, and, owing to subsequent transfers of territory, even these are not more than reasonably approximate. The fact too that the district is composed of a number of fragments which belonged to and were settled with five different districts, where the surveys and settlements were carried out by different officers on different principles, adds an additional element of uncertainty. Making allowances for these disturbing factors it appears that of the territory now comprised in the Etah district some 545,027 acres were under cultivation at the time of the first settlement made under Regulation IX of 1833. This figure is kept down by the fact that the parganas of Etah-Sakit, Sonhar, Sirhpura and Sahawar were settled in 1839-40 just after the great famine of 1837-38 described by the settlement officer Mr. Edmonstone as having been attended with "unusually disastrous results." At the time of the next settlement, which closed in 1873, this portion of the duab was at the zenith of its prosperity, cultivation having everywhere been pushed to its furthest limits during a series of favourable seasons, and the area returned as under cultivation was 716,661 acres, an increase of 32 per cent. in the period. This area may probably be taken as representing the maximum possible under present conditions and as considerably higher than can be continuously maintained. It has in fact never again been reached, though the 705,867 acres of the recent settlement of 1905 may be regarded as practically equivalent to it, when allowance is made for losses by Gangetic diluvion. Between these two maxima however intervenes a period of remarkable fluctuations

during which cultivation fell off all over the district, though the decrease was not really noteworthy except in the northern parganas. The contraction of cultivation began in 1885 with the excessive rainfall, and continued during the series of wet years which followed, culminating in 1890-91, when the *tarai* tract had lost 34 per cent. of its cultivated area, the central duab 36 per cent. and the Kali Nadi valley 31 per cent. The comparative stability of the tract south of the Kali Nadi was well illustrated by the fact that it lost only 5 per cent. of its cultivation at this time. After 1890-91 there was a slow but steady recovery. How gradual this was may be judged from the fact that though 12 years later the recovery was complete, the central duab having actually extended its cultivated area by 1 per cent. beyond the limits of the previous settlement and the *tarai* and Kali Nadi valley being respectively only 5 and 1 per cent. behind their old totals, a difference mainly due, in the one case to diluvion and in the other to destruction of soil in the great flood of 1885, yet, when spread over the whole period of 12 years the average cultivated area in these tracts remained at from one-fifth to one-fourth below that of the settlement of 1873. The variations within these tracts between pargana and pargana were considerable. In Soron for instance the cultivated area had decreased by 26 per cent. in 1890-91, but had risen by 3 per cent. in 1902. In the unirrigated portion of Patiali the loss wa no less than 53 per cent. in 1890-91, while by 1902 this had been made up and cultivation extended by 5 per cent. Azamnagar again after losing 30 per cent. has added 1 per cent.

Double cropping.

One of the features of the agricultural history of the Etah district during the last 30 years has been the remarkable increase in the practice of taking two crops a year off the land. This is a sign of improved methods of agriculture and has been rendered possible by the great extension of canal irrigation. At the old settlement in 1872 only 15,987 acres, or 2·2 per cent. of the cultivated area, bore more than one crop in the year. The average double-cropped area for the five years which preceded the recent settlement of 1904-05 was 143,531 acres, or 20 per cent. of the total cultivated area. The actual area of the year of verification was a good deal less than this, amounting only to 90,793 acres;

but this was undoubtedly due, as the settlement officer points out, to deliberate abstention from irrigation in that year, which was generally practised throughout the district, with a view to showing a smaller irrigated area and thus obtaining lighter assessments. The figures giving the average for the preceding five years are unquestionably more fairly representative. The increase in the *do-fasli* area is not confined to any one portion of the district but is universal, though in some parganas the percentage is more startling than in others, owing to the more complete absence of the practice in the past. In Soron, for example, where such a thing was formerly unknown, 7·4 per cent. of the cultivated area is now cropped twice over. In the adjoining parganas of Sahawar and Sirhpura, where in 1878 the *do-fasli* area was ·4 and ·2 per cent. of the cultivated area, it is now 11·3 and 9 per cent. respectively. In Barna it has risen from 3 acres to 1,815, and in Azamnagar from 2,275 acres to 14,402. In Jalesar too even in the year of verification when, to quote the settlement officer, "every effort seems to have been made to reduce the irrigated area," and where at the last settlement the double-cropped area was as much as 10·73 per cent. of the cultivated area, the rise has been no less remarkable and the percentage was 19·65. Whether this development can be pushed much further without the risk of serious exhaustion of the soil is a question not easily to be answered. But it does not appear that there are at present any signs of such exhaustion, the prevalent system of rotation of crops appearing to be adequate to the restoration of the necessary properties of the land.

Culturable waste.

It has been pointed out in the last chapter that a new principle of classification has enormously increased the area shown as culturable waste in the settlement records. The figures have been still further swelled by transfers from the area formerly shown as fallow. At the settlement of 1873 only 4,513 acres were returned as culturable waste. According to the new survey this now amounts to 198,256 acres. Only 57,354 acres now appear as old fallow instead of 124,349 acres, while new fallow also has diminished by 10,861 acres and now only amounts to 13,200 acres. As has been seen, this decrease in fallow is not to be accounted for by an extension of cultivation, the reverse

having taken place; but in this case again a changed system of classification is the only explanation. The discovery of some method of completely and inexpensively reclaiming *usar* might, of course, render a great deal of this so-called culturable waste available for the plough, but until that very desirable consummation is achieved it is probable that it will continue to be left untouched. The old fallow again represents as a rule land which has been brought under the plough for a season or two when the district agriculture was at a high point of prosperity, and land was in great demand, but abandoned as soon as the temporary boom was over, as not worth the cost of continued cultivation. Nor is the proportion of new fallow likely to be much reduced in a district where so much of the soil is light and sandy, imperatively requiring frequent periods of rest if it is to be cultivated at all successfully.

Cultivation.

The methods of agriculture differ little from those in practice in the surrounding districts. There has been, of late years, a general improvement in the style of cultivation, mainly due to the great extension of canal irrigation which has rendered possible the extension of double-cropping, and an enormous increase in the more valuable *rabi* area. But the general style of cultivation is broad and not yet of a very high quality, while there is little of that intense cultivation which is usually associated with the Kachhi caste, garden crops only occupying about 1 per cent. of both the *kharif* and *rabi* areas. In actual methods of cultivation there has been little if any alteration, the innate conservatism of the Indian cultivator leading him to view all innovations with the deepest suspicion, while his natural improvidence prevents him from profiting by many of the lessons of experience. One innovation however has been universally adopted, and the iron sugarmill has driven the old stone press out of the field. With this exception all the implements in use are exactly the same as these employed for hundreds of years past. The *rabi* area, which at the settlement of 1873 fell short of the *kharif* area by over 45,000 acres, now exceeds it by over 20,000, the respective totals being 407,447 and 386,970 acres. This increase in the *rabi* area is almost entirely due to the great increase in the area bearing two crops, as the *kharif* has only

suffered to the extent of rather over a thousand acres, and is very general. At the 1873 settlement the *kharif* exceeded the *rabi* in every pargana. There are now only six where it is not in defect. These are the five parganas of Faizpur Badaria, Aulai, Pachlana, Bilram and Soron, which together make up the northern corner of the district, and pargana Jalesar, away in the south-west corner, and in all of them except Jalesar the *rabi* is steadily gaining on the *kharif*.

Kharif crops.

Though there has not been much change in the area covered by the *kharif* harvest, there have been great changes in the proportions of the crops of which that harvest is composed. In this district as elsewhere there has been a great tendency to grow crops in combination instead of singly. It was formerly more usual to grow both *bajra* and *juar* by themselves. They are now almost always grown in combination with *arhar*. *Bajra*, which in 1873 covered 159,975 acres, or more than 41 per cent. of the total *kharif* area, has sunk to 114,224 acres, and now comes only second to *juar*, which has risen from 90,349 acres to 114,883. Only in the Jalesar tahsil has the area under *bajra* increased to any appreciable degree, though there has been a small rise in Pachlana. This increase in *juar* at the expense of *bajra* is one of the many signs of improved cultivation, as *juar* is the more valuable but at the same time the more delicate crop of the two, needing more irrigation or else a better soil. The advent of the canals has made it possible to grow *juar* in the light sandy soils which were before unfit for anything but the hardier *bajra*. Maize, which at the last settlement was only sown in 9,640 acres, has multiplied its area more than five-fold and now occupies 54,215 acres, taking the third place in importance among the *kharif* staples. This enhanced popularity is due to the early date at which maize ripens. A failure of the rains in September, which may involve the total loss of promising crops of *juar* and *bajra*, finds maize beyond the reach of danger, provided it was sown in good time; and this early ripening has the additional advantage of enabling the crop to be harvested in time to plough the land for a spring crop, which is not possible in the case of the millets. An extension of the double-cropped area is therefore sure to be accompanied by an

extension of the area under maize. Cotton has considerably declined and now covers only 48,074 acres as compared with 71,422 acres at the last settlement. Only in Jalesar has there been an appreciable increase, from 13,428 acres to 15,735 acres. This is to be explained by the fact that the Raja of Awa has set up a ginning factory at Jalesar and is making great efforts to stimulate the production of cotton on his estates, making arrangements with the cultivators similar to those which used to govern the production of indigo. It is probable that there will be a revival of cotton cultivation before long.

Sugarcane is now grown on 16,887 acres, an increase of 2,500 acres since 1872. This is the more remarkable considering the amount of *tarai* land which has been cut away of recent years by the Ganges. No less than 1,341 acres of sugar-growing land have been lost owing to this cause in the three parganas of Faizpur Badaria, Aulai and Nidhpur. On the other hand the improved drainage of the Burhganga *tarai* has made a great deal of land which was formerly inundated available for cultivation. In Bilram for instance the area under sugar has risen from 285 to 871 acres, and in Sahawar from 872 to 1,537 acres. As many as ten different sorts of cane are grown in the district, but the commonest in the chief sugar-growing tract in the north of the district is *chin*. The thick soft *paunda*, meant for chewing, is mainly grown by *zamindars* and comparatively wealthy people in suburban gardens. The method of culture of cane is the same in all cases. The cane for seed is cut into short lengths called *painra* and stored in small underground vaults. It is sown in January and is ready for cutting at the end of the year. The first sprouts are known as *kulpa*; when a little taller it becomes *ikh* or *ikhari*; when the knots (*poi*) on the cane become distinct it is termed *ganna*, and when ready for cutting, *ganda*. After being cut and cleaned (*chhol*) the canes are gathered into bundles (*phandi*) of one hundred each and taken to the mill. The resultant juice is boiled to make the raw sugar or *gur*, after the first of it has been distributed among the pressers, village carpenters and blacksmiths, during a ceremony termed *rasyawal* or *raswai*. Another festival accompanies the distribution of the first *gur*, which in termed *jalawan* by Hindus and *sinni* by Musalmans. Sugarcane.

Rice.

Rice is now nearly as much grown as sugarcane, occupying 16,415 acres, an area more than half as large again as that which it covered at the 1873 settlement. This increase is universal throughout the district, the only two parganas which show a small decline being Faizpur Badaria and Aulai, and even in these the decrease is to attributed to the deliberate abstention from irrigation in the year of verification to which reference has already been made, the average of the 5 preceding years showing an increase in each case. Etah is the principal rice-growing tahsil, accounting for 6,413 acres, a total which is nearly doubled in normal years, the four years average for the Etah-Sakit pargana alone, where the lowlying lands along the Isan are peculiarly well-adapted for the cultivation of rice, being 7,252 acres. It is a common saying in the district that there are as many varieties of rice as there are clans of Rajputs: *Jitne baran Thakuron ke hain, To itne dhanon ke milen.* No less than twenty-one kinds are commonly grown in addition to several cultivated from imported seed.

Other *kharif* crops.

Garden crops are not much grown in the *kharif*, the total area amounting to only 2,424 acres. For the remaining products of the *kharif* harvest no detailed statistics are available, as they are all lumped together under the title " other crops." They cover between them an area of 19,848 acres. *Arhar* is extensively grown but, as has been already remarked, almost invariably in combination with *bajra*, *juar* or cotton. The almost complete disappearance of indigo is a phenomenon common to most districts of these provinces. At the 1873 settlement 90,055 acres were returned as sown with this crop, and the settlement officer remarked that this was probably an under-estimate, as most of the indigo had been cut at the time when the returns were prepared. The Awa Estate continued for some years the attempt to make indigo pay, but has been compelled to abandon it, and now only the numerous ruins of factories scattered all over the district remain to attest the former importance of the industry.

Rabi crops: wheat.

Of the *rabi* crops by far the most important is wheat, which covers 208,137 acres alone and 74,144 acres in combination with other crops, or altogether over 69 per cent. of the total *rabi*

area. The extension of canal irrigation and the cycle of wet seasons at the end of the last century have both combined to give a great impetus to the cultivation of wheat, the former by making it possible in many previously dry tracts, and the latter by ruining the *kharif* harvest for several years in succession and so inducing cultivators to reserve their energies for the *rabi*, which gives a more certain return. A good example of the operation of the latter cause is Nidhpur, which suffered severely during the wet seasons. Here the *rabi* area now greatly exceeds that of the *kharif*, the excess being entirely due to the extended cultivation of wheat, which occupies no less than 81 per cent. of the *rabi* area though the soils are inferior and wheat grown on them gives a poor outturn.

Barley.

Next in importance to wheat among the *rabi* staples comes barley, covering, both alone and in combination, 89,027 acres, or 22 per cent. of the total *rabi* area. Its cultivation has considerably decreased since the last settlement, when it formed 36 per cent. of the whole *rabi* harvest, and it has given place to wheat wherever the facilities for irrigation are sufficient to make the change possible.

Other *rabi* crops.

The small residue of the *rabi* area is mainly occupied by gram and peas grown together, which account for 22,246 acres, or nearly 4,000 more than at the last settlement. But the most remarkable increase is in the area under poppy, which has multiplied sixteen-fold. At the 1873 settlement only 453 acres were planted with this crop, which now covers 7,514 acres. The increase has been general throughout the district except in the extreme north and in the Jalesar tahsil; but the great bulk of the crop is produced in the four parganas of Etah-Sakit, Sahawar, Sirhpura and Azamnagar which between them contribute 6,214 acres, or 83 per cent. of the whole. The area under garden-crops has remained almost stationary and now amounts to 4,585 acres, while that under "other crops" has dwindled from 6,333 to 1,794 acres. One of the most important of these is tobacco, of which two kinds, the *katki* or *dhaturiya*, and the *dhakka* or *desi*, are grown in the district.

***Zaid* crops.**

The crops grown in the *zaid* or intermediate harvest are not of much importance. They cover only 4,149 acres, and

consist principally of melons grown on the river-banks and of *chehna*, a small millet resembling *sawan*.

Irrigation. The natural facilities for irrigation are indifferent throughout the greater part of the district, and before the advent of the canals Etah was certain to suffer severely in years of drought. Now however it is probable that few districts are more completely protected, every pargana receiving canal water except the three in the Ganges-Burhganga *tarai*, where it is not needed. Besides the canals irrigation is practised from wells, and from tanks, *jhils* and the rivers. But these other sources have dwindled in importance with the coming of the canals and are very much less used than in former years Indeed the statistics of irrigation in this district are peculiar, and according to the figures there has actually been a decrease of no less than 90,117 acres in the total irrigated area since the 1873 settlement. While the canal-irrigated area has more than doubled, rising from 42,835 acres to 102,085, that watered from wells has shrunk by nearly a half, falling from 249,081 to 129,456 acres, and the area irrigated from other sources has also diminished by nearly three-quarters, standing at 11,480 acres instead of 41,222 acres. But these figures are very misleading. In the first place there can be no doubt that those representing the present irrigated area are much below the mark. They are the figures for the year of verification, and the settlement officer has noted in almost every pargana a widespread and deliberate abstention from irrigation during that year, intended to secure a lenient assessment. The average of the three previous normal years was 282,483 acres. Besides this there can be no real comparison between the protection afforded by the stable canal irrigation and the variable and uncertain supply from wells and other sources, which are always liable to dry up more or less completely in a year of drought just when the water is most needed. The area commanded by the canals represents an area most of which can be counted on even in the driest year. Of the acreage dependent on wells, *jhils* and rivers on the other hand only a small portion can be brought under cultivation when the rainfall is deficient. The advantage to the district therefore of the extension of the canals

is not to be measured by the comparative number of acres irrigated alone, but the real test is a dry season. This principle is strikingly illustrated by the history of famines in this district, and an excellent example of the high degree of protection now enjoyed is to be found in the season 1896-97, when the decrease in cultivation as compared with the previous year amounted to only 10 per cent. In the drought of 1907 the *rabi* area sown declined by 18 per cent. only, the loss in area being greatest in tahsil Aliganj with 29 per cent. and least in tahsil Jalesar with 7 per cent.

Wells.

Though the area irrigated from the wells has decreased, as already stated, by nearly a half, this decrease has been entirely confined to the earthen wells, the number of masonry and half masonry wells in the district having nearly doubled between the years 1873 and 1904. The total number of these now in actual working is 10,315, of which 4,966 are new. The most remarkable increase is in Azamnagar, where no less than 1,326 new masonry wells have been built in addition to 474 previously in existence. The alluvial parganas of Faizpur Badaria and Aulai on the other hand only possess 10 masonry wells apiece, water being everywhere easily and inexpensively available, and irrigation little resorted to. Masonry wells can be made anywhere, but earthen wells, except those of the shallow percolation type, can only be made in places where the subsoil is firm enough to prevent the sides of the excavation from falling in; and such a subsoil is not common in the Etah district. Masonry wells are made either with burnt brick or block *kankar*, with or without lime mortar. They are ordinarily cylindrical, but many old wells are to be found of hexagonal or octágonal shape. A brick-built well of diameter sufficient to allow of two runs costs on an average Rs. 375 to construct, and a similar well built of *kankar* costs about Rs. 175. If only one run is required the expense of construction is about Rs. 300 and Rs. 120, respectively. Another less permanent well is made with deep concave bricks fitting into each other and set edgewise without mortar one above the other; such a well is usually of very small diameter and only just large enough to admit the leathern bucket. Its cost, exclusive of the expense of the excavation and the setting of the cylinder, is roughly

reckoned by the cultivator at one rupee per three *haths* or 4½ running feet of cylinder, and it will last from 15 to 20 years. Another more common type is made with broad bricks in the shape of the segment of a deep cylinder, and is of the ordinary size of masonry wells. Its cost is about one rupee per foot of running cylinder, and it is more durable than the last. In each case the brick lining rests on a wooden cylinder rising to the level of the water, and serves merely to prevent the falling-in of the loose soil. Earthen wells differ according as they are excavated in *mota* or hard soil or in sandy soil. Where a hard stiff soil is met with, as in the east of Aliganj, or in parts of Sahawar and Marehra, a cylindrical excavation of the circumference required is carried down either to the spring level or a few feet below the water-bearing stratum, and such a well sometimes lasts without further support for 20 years. In the sandier tracts the usual method is to dig a wide hole about 10 feet in diameter down to the water-bearing stratum and thence to sink a shaft about 4 feet wide, lined either with coils of twigs (*bira*) or a wattle cylinder (*budjhar*) usually made of tamarisk, or occasionally with a rough planking (*kothi*) of *dhak* wood. Of these the *bira* well costs about Rs. 7 and lasts about one year; a *budjhar* well lasts two years; a *kothi* well, costing Rs. 20, lasts ten years, and a *garh* well, in which bricks take the place of the rough planking in the *kothi* well, costs Rs. 25. The most frequent kind of well in the sandy tracts is, however, a mere wide hole dug to the water-bearing surface, and dependent on percolation for its supply. Such a well costs only Re. 1-8-0 but lasts for one season only and yields but a scanty amount of water.

Methods of working wells; *paira*.

The method in most ordinary use is the *paira*. A large leathern bag or bucket is fastened to the end of a rope which runs over a pulley. The other end of the rope is attached to the yoke of a pair of bullocks, which are driven down a sloping run from the well, the driver sitting on the rope to give additional momentum to the descent of the oxen. The length of the run is proportioned to the depth of the well, and by the time the bullocks have reached the bottom the bucket has been drawn up to a height of two or three feet above the brink of the well. Here it is caught by a second man who, as soon as the

driver turns the oxen and the rope slackens, draws it down to a hollow made for the purpose on the platform of the well and empties it, the water running off by the channels made for it to the field to be irrigated. The bullocks are then driven back up the sloping runway and the operation repeated. Besides the two men employed at the well, a third, known as *panmela*, is required to distribute the water over the fields.

Dhenkli. The *dhenkli* or pot-and-lever apparatus can only be used when the water is very close to the surface, and is the usual method employed for irrigation from the shallow percolation wells, though it is also employed for raising water from *jhils* or tanks. It consists of a long beam working in a forked post as a fulcrum. The short end is weighted, usually with a clod of earth, and to the longer end is hung an earthenware vessel. The operator draws down the long end until the bucket reaches the water, letting the rope go when the bucket is full. The bucket is then raised by the weight of the short end and the water is emptied into the channel prepared to receive it. As the earthenware vessel employed usually holds not more than two gallons, this is a slow and laborious method. It is also wasteful as a great deal of the water raised is lost by soaking and evaporation. It is therefore not uncommon, where the well is large enough, for two or more cultivators to club together and work their *dhenklis* jointly. In this way water and labour are both saved, as only one man is required to distribute the water in the fields.

Rahat. The *rahat*, *rahent* or *rhent*, is a single form of the Persian wheel and consists of two pots attached to each other by a rope and worked over a wheel, the pots ascending and descending alternately. This method again is chiefly employed where the subsoil is sand and the water close to the surface.

Dal. The method most commonly employed when water has to be raised from tanks, *jhils*, rivers, or canal channels at too low a level to permit of "flow" *(tor)* irrigation, is known as *dal* or "lift." A basket made of bamboos, or a wide leather bag with an iron rim, known as *paroya* or *lendi*, is used. Four ropes are attached to this bag or basket, which are held by two or four men who station themselves on either side of the basin from which the water is to be raised. A swinging motion is

then given to the basket; water from the basin is caught up and thrown into a small reservoir above, from which it runs off to the field. When water has to be raised any considerable height, as in the cold weather from the river bed to the top of its banks, a suitable spot is chosen where a footing for the workers can be found, and a hole of convenient size is dug connected with the river or tank by a channel. This hole is often lined with bricks to prevent erosion. A series of basins connected by channels with small reservoirs is then dug at intervals of about four feet all the way up the bank, a channel leading from the reservoir at the top to the land to be irrigated. At each reservoir stand two or four men with baskets, and as each reservoir is filled from below the water is passed on up the bank until it reaches the top, when it is run off to the fields. This method is expensive and wasteful if the water has to be raised to any height, but it is the only practicable one at the cultivator's disposal. For the purpose of canal irrigation, where the water has only to be raised one stage, "lift" is much to be preferred to "flow," acting as it does as an automatic check on the wasteful expenditure of water to which the cultivator is only too prone. As often as not he will turn on the water from the canal overnight and leave it to run till morning, quite indifferent to the fact that his neighbour's field, which may not need the water, is flooded as well as his own, which does.

Canals.

The Etah district is served by the Ganges canal and the lower Ganges canal systems. The former is represented by short lengths of the Anupshahr, Cawnpore and Etawah branches, and the latter by the main lower Ganges canal with the Farrukhabad and Bewar branches.

Ganges Canal: Anupshahr branch.

Of the three branches of the Ganges canal which flow through this district the most northerly is the Anupshahr branch which entering pargana Bilram at Kinawa tails into the main lower Ganges canal at Bilram after a course of about 7½ miles. The Mahaiwa and Bazidpur distributaries, which start in the Aligarh district from this branch, irrigate a portion of Bilram before tailing into the Jhabar drain. After entering the district this branch throws off on the left bank the Inaiti distributary,

from which the Ikhone branch takes off, and on the right bank the Kanobi, Dholna and Tazabpur minors. Altogether this branch irrigates an area of 2,648 acres in the *kharif* and 4,576 acres in the *rabi* in Bilram and Pachlana, taking the average of the last four years, the maximum having been attained in 1907-08, when 9,047 acres were irrigated at both harvests. The total culturable area commanded is 36,565 acres.

Cawnpore and Etawah branches.

The Cawnpore and Etawah branches cross the district from west to south-east at a distance apart of about four miles, and have each a total length within the district of about eleven miles. The Cawnpore branch, the most northerly of the two, has its entire course in pargana Marehra, entering it near its south-west corner and leaving it at Bharehra to join the lower Ganges main canal just outside the border at Gopalpur. Before reaching the district it throws out the important Somera distributary system and the Haidarnagar distributary, both of which irrigate the Etah district. Within the district the Bandi distributary is its most important offshoot, starting just above the Bandi bridge. The Cawnpore branch runs constantly as a rule, and the Bandi distributary in alternate weeks when the supply in the Cawnpore branch is sufficient to allow it to run at all. When the supply is expected to be low in the Cawnpore branch a temporary regulator of rails and planks is put in the Bandi bridge to raise the water to a level high enough to feed the Bandi distributary. The Somera distributary is supposed, when supplies are sufficient, to run for fortnightly periods with closures of a week in between. The Etawah branch enters the Jalesar tahsil in the north-west corner at Pilkhatra, and seven miles further on cuts across a portion of Marehra, re-entering Jalesar for the last mile of its course which terminates just north of Awa. Its most important distributary on the left bank is the Sahaoli, and on the right bank the supplementary channel which flows parallel with it throws off the Lodhipur distributary, which passes close by Jalesar town, and the Pilkhatra and Nuh distributaries. Between them these two branches command a culturable area of 187,044 acres, of which 51,188 acres have been irrigated on an average during the last five years, 17,734 acres in the *kharif* and 33,454 acres in the *rabi* harvest. A number

of drainage works have been carried out in connection with these two canals. Among these may be mentioned the big Sikandra Rao drain, north of the Cawnpore branch, which, starting in the Aligarh district, finally falls into the Isan about two miles south of Etah. Between the two branches are the Karera cut, leading into the Rind, and the Basondra and Jhinwar cuts which meet just over the border in Mainpuri. South of the Etawah branch is the Babarpur drain with its tributaries the Jalukhera and Bhojpur branch drains, which, starting at Borra just north of the Pilkhatra distributary, discharges into the Sengar just across the Agra border.

Lower Ganges main canal.

This canal enters the district in its north-west corner about two miles west of the Burhganga in pargana Pachlana and running nearly due south for 34½ miles, flows out into the Mainpuri district at Bharera in pargana Marehra. The main canal is not used at all for irrigation but only acts as a supply channel for its various branches, which all take off from its left or eastern bank. The first of these is the Farrukhabad branch which leaves it about 2½ miles from its point of entrance into the district. A little further down a syphon carries the Jhabar drain under the canal to fall into the Kali Nadi near Kasganj. This drain relieves the tract of country between the Anupshahr branch and the main canal and both the Mahaiwa and Bazipur distributaries tail into it. Continuing through Bilram the main canal crosses the Kali Nadi by the Nadrai aqueduct, having received the tail of the Anupshahr branch about a mile further up. At Nadrai there is a bridge which carries the Hathras road across the canal, a canal escape and regulator, and an inspection house and telegraph office. A little above the Asadpur lock and regulator in pargana Marehra the Bewar branch takes off for the irrigation of the duab between the Kali and Kak Nadis. The regulator at Asadpur has sixteen openings of eight feet provided with sluice gates enabling water to be held up for the supply of the Bewar branch. Passing the town of Etah at a distance of about four miles to the west the canal is crossed at Sunna by the grand trunk road from Etah to Aligarh which is carried over a bridge of four 32 feet spans with an eighteen foot roadway. Just before it leaves the district the canal is crossed by the Kansua

bridge with three spans of 44 feet each for the first-class district road from Etah to Jalesar. Other bridges are situated at Karai, Bharwari, Bhagwantpur, Bilram, Maraichi, Ratanpur, Barethal and Arthara. At Marehra there is a large drainage syphon with three spans of 14 feet by which the drainage of the country lying to the west is passed below the canal into the Karon Nala. Other syphons carry the Karon Nala, the Isan and the Sumera and Bandi distributaries under the canal, and at Jaura a drainage inlet passes the drainage of a hollow between the Bandi distributary, the Isan Nadi *bandh* and the canal itself, into the canal. Besides the works to which reference has been made a number of other drains have been completed in connection with this canal. The bed of the Karon Nala has been deepened, cleared and embanked. The Isan Nadi has been straightened and widened and an embankment made to prevent its floods from spilling into the Jaora hollow, while various cuts have been made into it to relieve depressions. The Rind has been diverted and its old channel made into a drainage cut.

Nadrai aqueduct.

When the lower Ganges canal was first constructed it was carried across the Kali Nadi by an aqueduct with 5 spans of 35 feet each, the openings having a total sectional area of 3,165 square feet. The cost of the structure was Rs. 4,45,243. From the time the canal was opened in 1878 until the latter end of the monsoon season of 1884, this aqueduct passed off all the drainage water that came down the Kali Nadi, and there was no suspicion that the waterway given to it was in any way under-estimated. But on the 2nd October 1884 the aqueduct was seriously damaged by a high flood in the river, and was completely destroyed on the 17th July 1885 by another flood, the discharge of which was estimated at 132,000 cubic feet per second. In addition to the destruction of the aqueduct this great flood destroyed many villages and swept away every road and railway bridge on the lower 150 miles of its course. The new aqueduct, which has been constructed to replace the old one, is a magnificent work, consisting of 15 spans of 60 feet each, with a total waterway of 21,600 square feet; and as the area of the catchment basin is 2,377 square miles, an allowance of 9·09 cubic feet per second of discharge per square mile has been allowed, which is amply sufficient for

all possible requirements. The aqueduct is designed to carry a volume of 4,100 cubic feet per second passing down the canal. In order to give a general idea of the magnitude of the work it may be mentioned that the superstructure is founded on 268 circular wells sunk to a depth of 52 feet below the bed of the river and filled with concrete. Of these wells, 154 are of 20 feet outside diameter, 58 of 12 feet diameter, and the rest are of different dimensions up to 13 feet diameter. The work occupied only four years in construction and its total cost was Rs. 25,83,487.

Farrukhabad branch. The Farrukhabad branch leaves the main canal in pargana Pachlana just above the Bharwari bridge and has in this district a length of 46 miles, running through parganas Pachlana, Soron, Sahawar, Patiali and Azamnagar into the Farrukhabad district. The principal distributaries are the Bachmai branch which takes off from the left bank just above Bhadain Kalan station, where the railway crosses the canal; the Mohanpur distributary on the right bank 4½ miles further on; and just beyond it, on the left bank the Dundwara distributary. In pargana Patiali the Bhargain distributary leaves it on the left bank and in Azamnagar the Bilsar aud Rudain distributaries start from it on the right and left bank respectively. A large number of minors and small channels are supplied by these distributaries and the total culturable area commanded by the branch is 346,579 acres. During the last five years the average area irrigated has been 13,105 acres in the *kharif* and 41,645 acres in the *rabi* harvest, the maximum yet attained being 73,996 acres for both harvests in 1907-08. Just below the Rudain distributary and shortly before the canal leaves the district is the Manikpur escape leading into the Burhganga. There are bridges at Kasrauli, Nartha, Gurha, Rekhpur, Chandi, Khatauli, Nathupur, Hasanpur, Baharpur, Chandhai, Ramnagar, Mundah, Garhi, Jinaul, Bishondi, Suargdwara, Kanchanpur, Marcha, Nagla Dhata, Pehra, Kaila, Rampur, Bilsar, Alliapur, Bijehpur and Garhia, as well as several cattle and foot bridges. There are also several drainage syphons, one of which between the Nartha and Gurha bridges carries the collected flood water from the left bank of the canal into the Jhabar drain. Running as this branch does along the

watershed of the Kali Nadi and Burhganga, the drainage on either side naturally falls into those two rivers, and a great deal has been done to improve it. On the right side, besides the Jhabar drain, the Sirhpura and Mohanpur drainage systems with a large number of tributary cuts have been constructed leading into the Kali Nadi. On the left side the channel of the Burhganga has been deepened and straightened and several new drains dug into it. Of these the most important are the Sadikpur, serving the town of Sahawar; the Chitauni; the Ganeshpur, which relieves Dundwara of its flood water; the Chirrauli; and the considerable systems of Thana Dariaoganj and Rudain.

Bewar branch.

The Bewar branch, which takes off from the main canal just above Asadpur, has a length in this district of 24 miles 5 furlongs, all in pargana Etah-Sakit. The principal distributaries are the Garhi and the Malawah with a number of minors. The branch ordinarily runs every alternate week, but during the *rabi* season, when the demand is great, it can in a year of scanty rainfall only be run one week in every three. The culturable area commanded in this district is 57,136 acres, and the average area irrigated during the last 5 years has been 12,705 acres in the *rabi* and 6,997 acres in the *kharif* harvest, the maximum yet attained being 23,963 acres for both harvests, in 1907-08. Between the second and third miles is a syphon for passing the Karon Nala under the branch. There is also an escape, but this is never used owing to its proximity to the head of the branch where the gauge can be reduced, when necessary, more quickly than the escape can be opened. Between the 4th and 5th miles is another syphon which takes the Jirsmai distributary, a branch of the Somera distributary, under the Bewar branch. There are regulators at Jirsmai and Chhachena in the 9th and 17th miles which serve as bridges to carry the Etah-Sahawar and grand trunk roads. Below the latter regulator there is a 6-foot fall in the canal bed. A bridge at Sirsa-Tibbu in the 3rd mile takes the Etah-Kasganj road, and the Sakit-Aspur road crosses another at Baoli in the 19th mile. Besides these there are bridges at Sarnau, Ganeshpur, Himmatpur, Kason, Bahadurpur and Turkipur, as well as three cattle or foot bridges. Several drainage works have been carried out in connection with this

branch. The Haraudi-Panwa drain, 11 miles in length, drains the hollow between the 20th and 29th mile on the left bank. Formerly the water used to cross the canal and pass into the Kak Nadi, but it is now carried into the Kali Nadi. This drain acts very effectively and also relieves the Bewar branch of a great deal of percolation. The Karthala drain, 3 miles long, provides an outlet into the Kali Nadi for the Karthala *jhil*, whose overspill used to damage the surrounding land as well as rendering the Karthala inspection house uninhabitable for 4 or 5 months in the year. This drain is provided with a regulator at the head to hold up water for irrigation if required. The Kansui drain relieves the country about Hareouli and Kansuri villages formerly subject to flooding caused by the obstruction to the natural drainage of the neighbouring distributary. The Barauli and Milk Banehra drains relieve the villages of Barauli, Chandpur, Banehra and Milk Banehra.

Early famines.

The information available with regard to the early famines which have afflicted that portion of the duab in which the Etah district is situated is for the most part of a meagre description, the historians disdaining to mention any in which the distress was not widespread and fearful. The first of which there is any distinct record is that which followed the invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni in 1004, when the horrors of pestilence were added to those of a very severe famine over the whole country side. In 1424 again it is recorded that the imperial army was unable to march to Kanauj owing to the famine which then prevailed in Hindustan. This district must also from its situation have shared in the terrible and famous famines of 1661 and 1770, while the next in 1783 was so severely felt that it is still remembered and spoken of under the name of Chalisa, a term derived from the Hindu date of its occurrence. Almost immediately after the cession came another great famine in 1803. This began with serious hailstorms, which greatly diminished the outturn of the *rabi* harvest, and continued with an almost complete failure of the rains. From both Farrukhabad and Etawah, which between them included the present Etah district, came reports of the destruction of the *kharif* and an apprehended loss of the *rabi* for 1804. Advances were made

(to an unspecified amount) in Farrukhabad, and considerable suspensions of revenue were authorized, but no more direct and immediate form of relief was attempted. By 1804 the distress was acute. A few falls of rain at the end of September had induced the sowing of the *rabi*, but the *mahawat* or cold weather rains had been entirely wanting and the young crops were withering. There had only been scarcity before; there was now starvation, and the people were selling their cattle and implements, while those who had nothing to sell were emigrating. The revenue could not be collected and balances accrued at an alarming pace. What little of the *rabi* had succeeded in germinating in Etawah was destroyed by a violent hailstorm, and the general distress was acute until at last in June and July a copious rainfall relieved the situation. Large advances made to returning emigrants, for the purchase of seed and to replace their bullocks and implements, enabled them to take advantage of the favourable season, but it was many years before the country fully recovered. The seasons 1813-14 and 1819-20 were seasons of scarcity, but another famine did not occur till 1826, when the Collector of Farrukhabad reported that the failure of the rain had been greater in his district than in 1803, while its distribution had been curiously partial, one village in Aliganj having received a shower while its neighbour had not. He stated that in the tract between the Kali Nadi and Isan "the whole country, with the exception of the few villages which possess wells, presented the same picture. The cultivation always depended on the irrigation afforded by jheels (or indeed I might call them lakes), but these resources, which had in many spots never been known to be dry in the hot winds, were this year without water in the rains. I visited several such spots and saw with my own eyes the failure and its consequences. To attempt to estimate the crop in this direction would be useless. In a great many villages there can scarcely be said to be any crops, and what may be produced will not be sufficient for the food of the inhabitants. The scene of general distress and poverty which I observed is beyond my ability to describe. The villagers constantly declare that they are without food and in despair." The Sub-Collector of Sirhpura estimated the deficiency in the *rabi* at one-third of the normal. The average was kept up by the parganas

of Nidhpur, Aulai and Patiali, which were saved by inundations from the Ganges, but Sakit and Marehra had their full share of adversity. Advances to the amount of Rs. 3,500 were made to Sirhpura during May, June and July for the sake of the ensuing *kharif*, and Rs. 11,336 of the revenue demand were suspended in Farrukhabad, but there seems to have been no revenue entirely remitted.

1837-38. In the season of 1837-38 the district was again visited with famine in common with the rest of the province. The cattle died in thousands and the price of all seeds rose about 100 per cent. Relief works were opened, nearly two lakhs being spent on relief in the district of Farrukhabad, and private charity, both native and European, did its utmost; but for all that the suffering and the mortality were terrible, hundreds dying of starvation while it was found necessary to increase the police force to protect property against the attacks of the starving multitudes who broke open the banias' shops and committed numerous outrages in their despairing quest for food. An eye-witness (Captain Wroughton) thus describes the agricultural condition of part of the district in November 1837: "Etah (the pargana) is in one general state. All the cultivation is dependent on irrigation, and as this division had some rain, grass for fodder is procurable, and the cattle in consequence are able to work at the wells, which are kept constantly going. The same holds good of Sakit, except that grass is not so plentiful. In Sirhpura, the water being nearer the surface, the irrigation cultivation is 25 per cent. above average seasons. The attention of the ryots having been confined to this description of tillage, the small quantity of rain did not permit them to prepare their *khaki* lands. Fodder is pretty abundant here compared with the adjacent parganas, and as this pargana borders on the *tarai*, the means of supporting the cattle is not unobtainable."

1860-61. Another famine, of sufficient severity to have earned the grim distinction of a name of its own, came in 1860. It is still known as the *akal satsera*, or "seven *ser* famine," and such was the distress that the people were driven to eat wild vegetables and fruits and to extract food even from grass seeds. The cattle were fed on leaves, and vast numbers of them perished.

The local cause was the want of irrigation : and perhaps the indolence of the large Thakur population contributed to make bad worse. The total average rainfall throughout the district up to the third week of September 1860 was only 8·44 inches, and the severity of the famine may be judged from the fact that the Agra Committee allotted Rs. 53,000 for this district —three times as large an amount as was granted to Farrukhabad and nearly twelve times as much as the grant Etawah was supposed to require.

In 1868-69 Etah was visited with drought and scarcity, but not by famine. The *kharif* crops almost entirely failed, owing to the six weeks' drought that succeeded the rains in July, and yielded hardly one-fourth of the average. The September rains barely touched the north of the district, and large numbers of earthen wells had to be dug in order to cultivate the *rabi* crops. These gave a return estimated at seven-twelfths of the average. The Collector reported that though the high prices were maintained until the end of 1869, the people, being mostly agricultural, did not suffer so acutely as the inhabitants of the neigbouring districts. 1868-69.

In 1877 the district again suffered from famine. The first symptom of distress was a large influx of immigrants from the tracts south of the Jamna who were marching northwards in search of pasturage for their cattle. Its extensive canal irrigation enabled the district to save a fair amount of the *kharif* harvest in 1877, and though the mortality during the winter months of 1877-78 was excessively high this was in a great measure attributable to an epidemic of small-pox which was raging at the time, as well as to the large percentage of deaths among the weak and sickly immigrants. Relief works were started after a meeting at Agra in September 1877, and consisted of the collection of *kankar* for the construction of first-class roads, of repairs to second-class roads and of work on the new canals. Poorhouses were opened in January 1878 at Etah, Soron, Aliganj and Kasganj, and in February at Marehra as well. These were all closed by the beginning of April, but in July it was found necessary to reopen those at Etah, Kasganj and Aliganj. The district officers noted however an extreme 1877-78.

reluctance—and in many cases an absolute refusal—to go to the poorhouses not only among the higher castes, but even among Kachhis, Lodhas and the like, and the total number of persons so relieved was only 5,110. The average weekly number of persons employed on the relief works in the collection of road metal and the raising and improvements of roads was 14,176, while the canal gave work to a monthly average of 12,231 persons for the 15 months from August 1877 to October 1878. The state relief was liberally supplemented by the generosity of the richer zamindars and merchants. The death-rate between November 1877 and June 1878, when small-pox was prevalent over the greater part of the district, was as high as 41·5 per mille, but dropped with the disappearance of that scourge to 15 per mille during the next six months.

1896-97. The rainfall of 1896 was deficient from the outset and ceased entirely in the last week of August, when only 16·79 inches had been received. The only tracts where the consequent scarcity was at all felt were part of pargana Sonhar in the Etah tahsil, a few villages to the south-west of the Jalesar tahsil, and the whole of the Aliganj tahsil, which became the chief centre of relief distribution. This last named tract usually suffers more acutely than any other part of the district from drought, blight or floods. At the beginning of October 1876 crowds began to pour in at the Aliganj tahsil with applications for advances for the purchase of seed and the construction of *kachha* wells, and these signs of coming trouble were not disregarded. A regular system of relief was at once organized and sub-committees formed for the Act XX towns in the Aliganj tahsil, other tahsils following suit. Liberal *taqavi* advances were made to the amount of Rs. 84,830 for the construction of wells and the purchase of seed and cattle, and relief works and poorhouses were opened in Etah, Aliganj and Jalesar, while the government relief was supplemented by a total contribution of Rs. 39,000 from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. This fund was administered by the local sub-committees, who also did a good deal of work independently. Revenue to the amount of Rs. 78,301 was suspended, of which Rs. 27,260 was subsequently remitted. The complete adequacy of these measures and the trifling nature

of the distress may be gauged by the facts that the total number of persons who entered the poorhouses was only 333, and that the relief works, which were kept open from January till March, only attracted 1,515 labourers in all, while the Civil Surgeon was able to report that the public health was good and the mortality below normal.

The famine of 1905-06 left the Etah district practically untouched, and no relief measures were required. In 1907 there was a small amount of distress among the poorest portion of the population, caused by the high prices ruling among food grains. Early in January 1908 gratuitous relief was started on a small scale, but the numbers in receipt of it never exceeded 750 at any one time, and during March and April it was gradually discontinued everywhere except in the brackish water tract to the south-west of the Jalesar tahsil, where it was given until the 28th May. A relief work opened in the same tahsil on the 18th January was closed on the 2nd April, after failing at any time to attract more than 450 workers. Two poorhouses were erected but never occupied, and with the harvesting of the spring crops all need for relief or cause for anxiety came to an end. **1905-06 and 1907-08.**

The history of the district since 1880 shows that, while drought has lost most of its terrors for the people of Etah, a series of seasons in which the rainfall is excessive may cause extensive and lasting mischief and distress. Such a sequence of years occurred between 1885 and 1889, and resulted in a very serious amount of agricultural depression throughout the northern part of the district. There was a marked general rise in the water level, so that the lower lands became waterlogged while in the upper the saturated soil broke out into a terrible eruption of *kans* grass, stretching in many parts in an uninterrupted sea of green over many acres together and completely driving the plough off the fields. The extent and severity of this calamity are well illustrated by the statistics of population and cultivation for the years following this period. In 1890-91 the cultivated area in the *tarai* tract had diminished by 34 per cent. from that recorded at the last settlement, in the central duab the decrease was 36 per cent. and in the Kali Nadi valley 31 per cent. Nor was **Other calamities.**

this decrease merely a temporary one, as is usually the case after a drought, for during the next 12 years the average area of cultivation for these three tracts, respectively, was less by 25, 2·2 and 19 per cent. than at the previous settlement. This enormous diminution in cultivation resulted in wholesale emigration on the part of the tenants and labourers whose occupation was gone, and while the population of the less affected southern section of the district rose from 345,817 in 1881 to 348,060 in 1891, that of the northern portion sank from 410,446 to 354,003, a loss of no less than 11 per cent. during the same period. Other indications of the intensity of the distress are to be found in the extraordinary rise in the number of coercive processes required to enforce payment of the revenue demand—attachment of a share, for instance, which was only necessary in 7 cases between 1884 and 1888 was employed in 164 between 1889 and 1893—and in the large number of occupancy holdings thrown up. The occupancy area, which in the southern section of the district increased during the currency of the 1873 settlement from 68 to 75 per cent. of the whole, decreased in the north from 72 to 60 per cent., and this loss is entirely attributed by the settlement officer to the abandonment of holdings which could no longer be made to pay.

Floods.

Another mischievous effect of a heavy rainfall is to cause floods, often attended with disastrous consequences, in the rivers. The lands in the neighbourhood of the Burhganga and the Kali Nadi are particularly subject to this form of calamity and have both suffered severely in the past, the latter having been more or less permanently injured by the great Nadrai aqueduct flood of 1885 to which reference has already been made. Fortunately in the case of the Kali Nadi the depth of the river valley confines the area of devastation to comparatively narrow limits, and there is reason to hope that the improvements effected in the channel and drainage of the Burhganga will greatly diminish, if they do not altogether avert, the destructive floods which have in the past been of such common occurrence.

Insect pests.

Besides the inclemencies of the weather the Etah cultivator has also to contend against the ravages of sundry insect pests and the competition of noxious weeds. Locusts (*tiri* or *tanri*) may come at any season and can only be combated with the

smoke of fires and the clamour of beaten drums and brass vessels. The *durkhi* is an insect which appears in dry seasons of deficient rain and particularly affects tobacco, mustard and wheat. A fall of rain or copious irrigation is required for its destruction. The white ant is also very injurious to growing crops. Two species of an insect known as *mahun*, one green and the other blackish-red, come with an east wind and disappear with the west wind. *Makoha* is an insect that in excessively dry weather attacks *bajra, juar*, sugar-cane and *shakrkandi*. *Gareri* and *sundi* are small insects of a whitish colour, about as big as a grain of rice, which ravage *juar* and *bajra*. *Sehi* is a small insect that at times does great harm to wheat. *Bhaunri* is a very small insect, which in excessively dry weather attacks *juar* and *bajra*. *Chempa* is a small dark-coloured insect resembling the *mahun*, which injures *arhar* and tobacco. *Sanwal* and *kukohi* are produced by the prevalence of east winds and excessive rain, and afflict barley and wheat in the ear. *Tara*, a very small green insect, occasionally ravages wheat. *Khapariya* is another very small white insect which sometimes injures rice. When attacked by the blight known as *seun*, wheat apparently healthy in stalk and ear will be found to contain little or no grain. *Ratwa* is the red blight in wheat; *agaya* attacks rice; *ukhta* is the withering caused by drought; *kandwa* resembles the smut in barley. Other blights are produced by the sharp west wind (*bahara*); by frost (*tusar*); by hail, and, near the Ganges, by floods.

The two weeds which the cultivator has most reason to fear in this district are *kans* and *baisurai*. The former is too well known to need any description. Always dormant in the soil, especially throughout the northern portion of the district, its roots only await that saturation of the surrounding earth which so quickly results here from continuous heavy rain to spring into luxuriant life and cover the whole country side with a perfect sea of dense green vegetation with which the plough cannot hope to contend. Nothing indeed seems to be of much avail against it until the return of drier seasons and the consequent sinking of the water level deprive its roots of that plentiful moisture without which they cannot thrive. The only remedy Weeds. *Kans.*

against *kans* seems to consist in the removal or mitigation of the conditions which are necessary to its growth, and by better drainage to prevent the subsoil from becoming saturated when the rainfall is in excess.

Baisurai. *Baisurai* or *baisuri* is fortunately not found to any extent except in the west of the Jalesar tahsil and in pargana Nidhpur at the opposite end of the district, where it is locally known as "*sorai.*" It is a small branching shrub, from one to ten feet in height, with a woody stem and a tap root which penetrates the ground to a great depth, portions of it having been come across when sinking wells 100 feet below the surface. No amount of labour will therefore serve to eradicate it when once established. In Jalesar, as in the Mustafabad tahsil of the Mainpuri district, it is found to flourish most where the well water is brackish, and it is believed by the cultivators that irrigation with this brackish water fosters its growth. It may however be doubted whether the connection with brackish water is causal and not a mere coincidence. A more plausible theory is that advanced by the settlement officer, that the prevalence of the plant varies directly with the depth to water. Where the water level is low *baisurai* abounds, diminishing as the level rises until it disappears altogether. This theory finds a great deal of support in the figures given in the Jalesar rent-rate report. In the brackish water tracts, where every village is infected with *baisurai,* the average depth to water is 37 feet. In the next group of villages taken where the average depth is 29 feet, 7 out of 23 are free from the weed, and the percentage of infection steadily decreases to 64 at 27 feet, and 57 at 24 feet, until where the water level reaches 18 feet, only one village in 22 is at all tainted with the weed. The effect of canal irrigation is disputed, but there seems to be a balance of opinion in favour of the belief that it is injurious to *baisurai,* though this may be to some extent due to the more continuous and careful cultivation received by fields which command canal water. There is however no doubt that in a year of drought *baisurai* flourishes exceedingly, and that every year it dies down and disappears with the arrival of the monsoon. It is therefore the *rabi* harvest which is most seriously affected by it, the *kharif*

escaping almost entirely. The great depth of the roots rendering complete eradication impossible, all that can be done to clear a field where the weed has sown itself is to hire coolies to cut down the plants with *khurpas*. The cost of the operation varies, but may be reckoned at from Re. 1 to Re. 1-8-0 a bigha, and it is usually carried out in June, when the fields are prepared for the *kharif* crop. As the seeds are dispersed in May this does not prevent the spread of the plant, and it would be much better to do the cutting in April and May before the flowering is over. Cattle will not touch *baisurai* and its only economic value is as fuel, bundles of the cut stalks selling at an anna or an anna and a half.

Prices.

During the last three-quarters of a century the rise in prices all over the district has been very marked and would seem to be still continuing. Statistics are not available for the whole district from a very early period, but those that exist all point to a general steady rise only occasionally interrupted by a momentary fluctuation. Wheat for instance averaged 36½ seers to the rupee in the pargana Azamnagar between 1833 and 1856, and had risen to 28¾ seers by 1871. In Sahawar the average before 1860 was 38 seers, but 25 seers in 1870; and Sirhpura showed a rise from 35 seers to 24½ in the same period. In the period 1870-1874 the average price for the whole district was 20 seers 7 chittaks. This dropped during the next five years to 22 seers 2 chittaks, but has since risen by steady gradations to 14 seers 7 chittaks in 1902. In the case of the millets the increase in price has been no less marked though much less regular. *Juar*, which between 1841 and 1850 averaged 51 seers 2 chittaks in Sahawar, rose between 1851 and 1860 to 25 seers 9 chittaks, falling during the next decade to 35 seers 2 chittaks. Over the whole district its average was 26 seers 1 chittak during 1864—68, rising during the next 5 years to 24 seers 2 chittaks, but falling again between 1875 and 1879 to 26 seers 6 chittaks. After this it rose again until between 1885 and 1889 it reached its maximum of 16 seers 2 chittaks, from which it once more declined until between 1897 and 1902 its average was 21 seers 4 chittaks. *Bajra* has followed a similar course, while the fluctuations of barley have resembled those of wheat. The difference between

the behaviour of the two sets of grains, the one showing a gradual and almost continuous rise, the other a more spasmodic upward movement varied by violent oscillations, is to be explained by the fact that both wheat and barley are largely exported and their price depends upon outside conditions, while *bajra* and *juar* are mainly articles of local consumption and their prices are influenced by local conditions. The maximum of the latter was touched during the period of depression when large areas had gone out of cultivation, and the subsequent recovery of the district agriculture has resulted in a decided fall in price. The improvement of communications and the rapid and cheap means of transport now available through the extension of the railways, coupled with the world-wide demand for wheat and barley, have made the prices of these grains quite independent of the requirements of the district, and the price of wheat in Kasganj or Aliganj is governed, not by the success or failure of the *rabi* crop in Etah, but by the abundance or deficiency of the wheat harvest of the whole world. The general rise in prices throughout the district may be put at 20 per cent. during the last 30 years. The decrease in the prices of *juar* and *bajra* involves no hardship to the cultivator as they are not the crops which pay the rent, and the fall is the result of a series of excellent harvests. Indeed cheap *bajra* combined with dear wheat probably spells the maximum of prosperity to the agricultural classes, who are perhaps about as well off at the present moment as they ever have been.

Wages. The general rise in the prices of food grains has inevitably been accompanied by a rise in the rates of wages, but the latter has scarcely been proportionate to the former and has been greater in the case of the skilled artisan than of the unskilled labourer. Carpenters, masons and blacksmiths, for example, who in 1850 earned a daily wage of from 2 to 2½ annas, now receive from 5 to 5½ annas, whereas the agricultural labourer's remuneration has only risen from 1 to 2 annas, the same sum being paid to coolies and porters who in 1850 could claim 1 anna 3 pies. As a rule however the village smiths and carpenters are paid not in money but in grain, each plough paying from 15 to 20 *seers* at each harvest to the carpenter and blacksmith,

who also receive a fee of 5 *sers* (*akhat*) on the occasion of the first using of a new plough. So also a smith gets a rupee (*karihak*) from any member of a wedding-procession who wants iron-work of any kind done, no matter how trifling the job may be. At the sugar-pressing season the carpenter in some places gets Rs. 2, a *bheli* of *gur* weighing 2½ *sers*, and a *ghara* full of juice from each sugar press; in other villages he gets one-fortieth of the produce of each press. The village potter also gets ten *sers* of grain at each harvest from each plough, and the *dhobi* or village washerman the same. The sweeper too is entitled to five *sers* of grain from each cultivator after each harvest, and this pittance is eked out by the fees of his wife, who is usually the village midwife and receives for the first male child born one rupee, five *sers* of grain, a quarter of a *ser* of oil and a quarter of a *ser* of *gur*, only half these amounts being given for the first girl and for any subsequent child. The village water-carrier (*bhisti*) gets 5 *sers* at reaping time and the same amount at the threshing of each harvest, besides one *chapati* a day from those for whom he works regularly. The wages of the agricultural labourer too are usually paid in kind and vary with the season and the quality of the labour performed. At sowing-time (*baoni*) each labourer receives 2½ *sers* of grain per diem, and those actually engaged in sowing (*jholi*) get half a *ser* more than the rest, called the *god-ka-anaj* from the grain being held in their *chaddars*. At weeding time (*narai*) the wages are two annas' worth of grain a day, and at harvest time (*lai*) either five *sers* of grain a day (called *dabiya* or *muntha*) or one sheaf (*pula*) on every 20 sheaves reaped. The former mode of payment more commonly prevails in the *kharif* and the latter in the *rabi*. Cotton-picking (*binai*) is commonly done by the women and children, who usually receive for the first picking one quarter of the cotton picked and one chittak over, for the second picking one-eighth and one chittak over, for the third picking one-twelfth and a chittak, and when most of the cotton has been picked one-sixteenth and the same extra allowance. For working the old-fashioned *kolhu* or sugar-mill the labourers employed receive between them a one-thirtieth share of the produce, but

where the English sugar-press is used only one twenty-sixth is given. In addition to this fraction of the produce each receives 2½ *sers* of *gur*. Payments in money are however not uncommon, 2 or 2½ annas a day being the usual wage. For their work at the threshing-floor labourers receive one *ser* apiece from each maund of grain collected in the pile (*ras*). This fee is locally known as *thapa*. Besides picking cotton, women and children are employed at seed time and harvest, but not to any great extent, and there is no established rate for their labour as there is in Meerut, where the industrious Jatnis and their children are so numerous. On an average a woman gets 1½ anna and a child 1 anna a day.

Weights and measures.

The ordinary weights and measures are in use in the district, but besides these there are some peculiar to Etah. The old *taka* or copper pice still survives as a standard of weight and, while the government *ser* of 80 tolas or 26 Madushai *takas* is in use in Etah and the large bazars, in the villages in pargana Nidhpur adjoining the Badaun district, the *ser* contains 32 *takas*, the only exception being in Nardauli, a village in the same pargana, where the *ser* contains 39 *takas*. In the towns of tahsil Aliganj, *viz*. Dhumri, Patiali, Ganjdundwara, Kadarganj and Aliganj, the prevailing *ser* weight both for whole sale and retail sale contains 36 *takas*, the use of the government *ser* being confined to milk, sweetmeats, spices, &c. In pargana Aulai the *ser* of 32 *takas* is used. In a few villages in tahsil Jalesar *sers* of both 28 and 32 *takas* are used. Increased communication with the outside world is however tending to do away with these local peculiarities, which are very inconvenient for external trade, though clung to by the conservative instinct of the villager for ordinary local use. A five-*ser* weight is called here a *dhari* and 2½ *sers* are known as a *paseri*; in tahsil Kasganj however "*dhari*" and "*paseri*" are synonymous terms, meaning 5 *sers*, though in one pargana, *viz*. Aulai, the term "*paseri*" has a different signification when used with the word *kachcha* or *pakka*. *Kachcha paseri* means 2½ *sers* and *pakka paseri* means 5 *sers*. Twenty *sers* make a *kachcha* maund, and 40 *sers* a *pakka* maund. In measuring time the *pahar* or watch of 3 *ghantas* is ordinarily

used; 60 *bipals* make one *pal* and 60 *pals* one *ghari*, while 2½ *gharis* make one *ghanta* or hour. Dawn is known as *dhotura*, and the time between it and the first *pahar* is termed *chhakwara*. For calculating length the *angusht* is the unit, 48 making one *gaz* or yard, and 52 one *qadam* or pace, of which 2,200 make one *kos*, which is in practice little short of 2 miles. An area of twenty paces square, or about 30 poles, make a *kachcha* bigha, of which five and a quarter go to an acre. The government bigha measures 2,756·25 square yards; 1·756 bighas go to an acre, and each bigha is 0·5694 of an acre. A *kari* is equivalent to about 10½ inches, and nine of them make a *gattha*. The village *gaz* or yard measures 31½ inches, the *ilahi gaz* of 33 inches being seldom used.

The commonest system of interest in the district is that known as *kisti*. The money-lender advances Rs. 10 and collects as principal and interest one rupee a month for 12 months. Small transactions, where no article is given in pawn or as security, bring half an anna in the rupee per mensem as interest, or 37½ per cent. per annum. Where an article is given in pawn as security the interest is only one half as much. Large transactions without a mortgage range from 12 to 24 per cent. per annum according to the resources of the borrower. Where a mortgage is given on moveable property, the rate falls to from 9 to 12 per cent., and when the mortgage is on immoveable property it is often as low as 6 or 9 per cent. per annum. Petty agricultural advances on personal security are charged with interest at from six to nine pies in the rupee, or from 36½ to 57¼ per cent. per annum. Where a lien is given on the crop a common arrangement is that called *sawai*; thus, a cultivator borrows Rs. 20 from a money-lender on the first of Aghan and stipulates to pay in Rs. 25 worth of grain on the first of Baisakh, so for a loan for six months he has to pay at the rate of 50 per cent. per annum. When a cultivator is hard pressed he often has to pay 50 per cent. for half a year or one crop; this is called *deorha*, but it is commoner to pay 2 or 4 annas per rupee for each crop. Agricultural loans are frequently made in terms of the market rates of grain, and when that is the case the banias often deal very hardly with their clients, making their Interest.

calculations, both at the time of lending and the time of repayment, more favourable to themselves than the market rate really warrants. In this way the bania on one transaction secures not only his interest, but the tradesman's profit as well. Another system is that known as *up*, where the borrower agrees to pay back at the end of the harvest the value of the sum borrowed in grain, with one, two or three *sers* more per maund in excess of the market price. As a rule, 5 or 6 per cent. per annum would be considered a fair return for money invested in land. There are no large banking establishments in the district, though there are several well-to-do *sahukars* in Kasganj, one or two in Etah and one in Kadirganj. The ordinary village monetary arrangements are conducted by the local banias and shopkeepers, while in the larger villages a good many Bikanir and Rajputana Brahmans are to be found superintending loan establishments.

Village banks.

Several village banks were opened in 1901, but with one exception they all expired after a very brief existence. The only survivor is that of Sahawar, which was started under the superintendence of the Court of Wards which found the capital for it at first. This bank was registered in February 1906, with a capital of Rs. 3,869. Of this Rs. 1,000 have been contributed by the Court of Wards at 6¼ per cent. per annum, Rs. 2,500 by a European contractor at 8 per cent., Rs. 269 have been deposited by members who receive interest at 6¼ per cent., and Rs. 100 have been advanced by Government free of interest for three years. Loans are issued out of this capital to members of the society in sums ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 at rates of interest which vary from Rs. 9-6 to Rs. 12-8 per cent. per annum. Thus, after payment of the interest on the capital, there is a fair margin for miscellaneous expenditure. The progress of the bank has been remarkable. In 1901-02, the year of its inception, 61 loans were made, aggregating Rs. 895-8. This amount was recovered in full with Rs. 17-9-3 interest. In 1907-08 the number of loans was 317 and the amount lent Rs. 3,400. Besides the full sum lent Rs. 353-3-6 were realized as interest. The membership has risen from 147 to 218 and the bank is evidently increasing in popularity, the

facility with which loans are obtained being a great point in its favour. More than two-thirds of the members are Hindus, representing a dozen different castes, though Lodhas largely predominate, Kachhis and Chamars coming next. The bank is managed by a committee of which Chaudhri Nurullah Khan, the proprietor of the Sahawar estate, is *sarpanch* or president, his son Abdul Majid Khan being vice-president.

Manufactures. Etah is an essentially agricultural district and the few manufactures that are carried on deal with the products of the soil. The decline of indigo has deprived the district of one of its most valuable industries, and the factories which were once thickly strewn all over the country side have now been abandoned and are rapidly falling into decay. Only their masonry wells remain as a permanently useful asset. An attempt was being made by the late Raja of Awa to make cotton take the place of indigo. He had built a ginning and pressing factory at Jalesar, and started a system of advances to cultivators, similar to that which was in use among indigo planters, for the purpose of ensuring a constant supply of the raw product. Other ginning mills are being worked at Kasganj and Etah with considerable success, and the cotton-ginning industry appears to have a very promising future. Soron also has been stimulated into industrial activity by the advent of the railway and now contains a steam flour mill.

Sugar. Sugar has always been an important staple in Etah and there has been a considerable development in its production of recent years, new sugar-refineries springing into existence in most of the towns in the neighbourhood of the *tarai*, particularly in Kasganj and Soron and several villages of the Aliganj tahsil. All are under native management, and are prospering, the *tarai* land in their vicinity providing them with an ample supply of the raw material, while the railway close at hand enables the finished product to be readily and cheaply put upon the market.

Saltpetre Soil impregnated with saltpetre and salt (the chloride as well as the carbonate and sulphate of sodium) is common in the district, the latter (*lonha* or *mitti nimkin*) being found almost everywhere. The *reh* which is found all over the *usar* plains

consists principally of carbonate of soda, and the sulphate occurs in the *khari* soil which is met with in the Nidhpur pargana and round about Soron in the Kasganj tahsil. The saltpetre soil is chiefly confined to the sites of villages and towns, as nitre is not a natural product of the soil, but is the result of chemical changes caused by the fermentation of vegetable matter. In former times common salt was manufactured on an extensive scale in the Nidhpur pargana. Its direct production is now prohibited, but it is still educed in the process of refining saltpetre.

To make crude saltpetre (*shora kham* or *jaria*) the nitrous soil (*mitti shor*) is packed into an oblong trough-shaped filter (*kuria* or *kundia*) and freely watered. The filtrate, a brine of the colour of tea, is concentrated by boiling and set out to crystallize in earthen pans (*nands*), the whole process taking from 24 to 36 hours and producing on an average about 30 *sers* of crude saltpetre worth about Rs. 2 per maund. This ordinary crude saltpetre is a compound of about 5 parts nitre, 2 parts common salt and 3 parts other allied salts and insoluble matter. The season for the manufacture lasts from November to June. Each factory has to pay a license-fee of Rs. 2 under the Indian Salt Act XII of 1882 as well as a royalty to the owner of the land which may be anything from Rs. 15 to Rs. 200, according to the quantity and richness of the soil leased. The average outturn of a crude saltpetre factory is about 100 maunds for the season. The refining process consists in dissolving the crude product in water or nitrous brine and then boiling the solution until the salt and earthy matter in it are deposited, when the clear concentrated liquor is set out in wooden boxes (*mez*) to crystallize. This takes from 5 to 8 days, according to weather conditions, and the prisms or needles of refined saltpetre (*kalmi shora*) are then extracted, lightly washed with water and stored for sale. The residuary liquor (*ter*) remaining in the boxes is of value as it can be used again in a second operation. Ordinary refined saltpetre is worth about Rs. 6 a maund in the refinery, and should contain less than 5 per cent. of impurities and moisture, when it is known as *granti*.

The largest refinery in the district was established several years ago at Jalesar by Lala Lalta Parshad of Farrukhabad.

Other smaller concerns are at Awa and Sahawar. The license-fee for a refinery is Rs. 50, and on payment of a further duty of Rs. 2-8-0 a maund the licensee may remove for sale any salt educed in the process. Otherwise the salt produced must be destroyed unless unfit for human consumption and only suitable for preserving skins and hides (when it is known as *sitta*). In this case the fee is one rupee. It is said that *sitta* is also used for salting beef exported to Burma.

Khari, the sulphate of soda, is manufactured at Eklahra, Baghela, Kaderbari and Rafatnagar in the Kasganj tahsil. The brine obtained by the lixiviation of *khari*-impregnated soil is run out into cement-lined pans where it is evaporated by solar heat, the resultant deposit consisting of more or less impure sodium sulphate. The process occupies about a fortnight and the outturn of a single factory between April and June will amount on the average to about 200 maunds, worth about one rupee a maund. The license-fee for a *khari* factory is Rs. 10, and the royalty payable ranges, as a rule, from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50. *Khari* is used in this and the neighbouring districts for curing skins and hides and is also considered a safe and efficient purge for animals.

To supervise licensed works and to prevent the illicit manufacture of salt and saltpetre, the Northern India Salt Revenue department maintain in the district a staff of one inspector and three *peons*, while during the season of *khari* manufacture a special staff of one *jamadar* and two peons is posted in the neighbourhood of the *khari* works. The abundance of saline earth in the district renders necessary the greatest care and vigilance both in licensing localities and in watching the licensed works, and in spite of all the precautions taken cases of the illicit manufacture of salt are not uncommon.

Trade. The trade of the district is practically confined to the products of agriculture, and consists for the most part of grain, cotton, sugar, *gur*, *ghi*, oil, tobacco, potatoes and spices. But a certain amount of business is also done in manufactured articles, and the district exports utensils of copper, iron and brass, as well as country cloth, shoes and saltpetre. The principal trade centres are the four municipalities of Kasganj, Jalesar, Soron and Etah. Of these Kasganj is the most important

from its position as a junction on the railway, while Etah is handicapped by its distance from a railway station. Marehra and Dundwaraganj are also considerable collecting and exporting centres, the latter serving as the outlet for practically all the produce of the Aliganj tahsil. But the trade of the district is much hampered by defective communications, the railway only serving the northern portion of the district while the remainder is dependent, except on the eastern and western borders, on unmetalled roads. A further impediment is found in the Kali Nadi which, running through the very centre of the district and only bridged in one place, is at all times a serious obstacle to cart traffic, while in the monsoon it is impassable. The main current of trade sets in the direction of Agra and Hathras, and while the construction of feeder roads to the railway stations is perhaps the most urgent need of the moment, the opening of metalled communication between Jalesar and Hathras and Awa and Tundla is a matter which calls for early consideration.

Fairs. In the appendix will be found a list of the principal fairs held in the district together with the estimated average attendance at each. These assemblies are always religious in origin, the crowds of pilgrims being attracted by the sanctity attaching to the particular spot; but they usually acquire a greater or less degree of commercial importance from the number of traders who collect, primarily to supply the needs of the pilgrims but also in order to do business quite unconnected with religion. Of these fairs by far the most important is that of the Marg Sri, held at Soron in the Hindu month of Aghan. Beginning on the 11th this lasts for a week or more and it is estimated that as many as 100,000 persons now attend it, of whom some 50,000 come by rail. It is a bathing festival and the pilgrims bathe both at Garhia Ghat, on the Ganges some four miles from Soron, and also in the sacred tank of the Burhganga at Soron itself. The water of the tank was formerly stagnant and foul, but is now constantly renewed from the Ganges by means of a canal constructed for the purpose by the irrigation department. During the fair Soron is crowded and a great deal of business of all kinds is done in the bazar. Smaller fairs are held here at the dasehra of Jeth (about May) and on the Somvati, *i. e.*

Monday, which falls on the 15th of the dark half of any Hindu month (Amawas), while any eclipse affords an occasion for a very considerable gathering. Another important fair is held simultaneously at Kadirganj and Kakora on the Etah and Budaun banks of the Ganges. But most of the traders assemble at Kakora, those who visit Kadirganj coming principally to bathe.

Communications. The communications of the district with the outside world have been very considerably improved of late years and the construction of the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway has given it that outlet for its produce which it formerly lacked, while the completion of the new line to Bareilly has completed the opening up of its northern portion. The Jalesar tahsil in the south-west has sufficiently convenient access by metalled road to the East Indian Railway, the Jalesar Road station being only eight miles distant from Jalesar town. But the southern portion of the district is still remote from the railway and difficult of access. Within the district the means of communication are good south of the Kali Nadi, but indifferent in the north, where the only metalled roads are one from Kasganj to Soron and Bareilly and a feeder road from Thana Dariaoganj station to Aliganj. The generally sandy soil of the district renders unmetalled roads unsuitable for wheeled traffic and, though the metalling of the road from Etah to Aliganj will be of benefit, the communications all over the greater part of the Aliganj tahsil are still inadequate.

Railways. The metre-gauge railway from Cawnpore, connecting at Hathras with the East Indian Railway, has since 1884 run through the northern part of the district, with stations at Rudain, Thana Dariaoganj, Patiali, Dundwaraganj, Sahawar, Badhari Kalan, Kasganj and Marehra, within the district. Though the village of Rudain, from which that station takes its name, is in Farrukhabad, the station itself is in Etah. A branch line, constructed principally on account of the pilgrim traffic from Kasganj to Soron, was finished in 1885 and has since been continued to Bareilly with stations at Manpur, Magaria and Kachhlaghat, at the latter of which a bridge has been constructed across the Ganges. The line from Cawnpore

to Hathras carries a very large grain traffic and has done much to open up the district, enabling land-locked parganas like Sahawar, Sirhpura and Azamnagar, which previously had no better means of exporting their surplus grain than was afforded by bad unmetalled roads, to secure rapid and immediate access to the great grain markets. The effect of the railway on Kasganj has been very marked. The population which between 1865 and 1891 had only increased by 943, standing in the latter years at 16,050, rose during the next decade to 19,686, and the place is now a growing and prosperous manufacturing town, with cotton-ginning factories and a large and increasing trade in grain and other commodities. It has been proposed to construct yet another line of metre-gauge from Kasganj through Etah and Jalesar, connecting with the East Indian main line at Jalesar Road. This, if carried into effect, would go far towards the complete opening-up of the district, but there is a doubt whether the traffic would justify the enterprise.

Provincial roads.

A list of all roads in the district will be found in the appendix. As will be seen, they fall into two classes according as their upkeep is paid for out of provincial or local funds. The former are under the control of the public works department and the latter managed by the district board. The duty of keeping the metalled local roads in repair is, however, entrusted to the public works department, while the cost is defrayed from local funds. The chief provincial roads in the district are the Grand Trunk Road and the trunk road from Muttra to Bareilly. The former runs in a north-westerly direction through the district for a distance of 26 miles, entering it at the 250th mile from Allahabad and leaving it in the 276th. There is an encamping-ground at the 254th mile, another close to Etah and a third at Bhadwas near the Aligarh boundary. The cost of maintenance of this road is Rs. 22 per mile a month, or Rs. 262 per annum, and the expense of renewing four miles every year Rs. 3,800. The Muttra-Bareilly road runs from Kachhlaghat, on the bank of the Ganges, through Soron and Kasganj, south-west to Sikandra Rao in the Aligarh district, where it joins the Grand Trunk Road. Its total length in this district is just under 26 miles, and it crosses the Kali Nadi by the bridge at

Nadrai and the Burhganga by two bridges near Soron, the passage of the Ganges being effected by a bridge of boats in the hot weather and a ferry in the rains. There are encamping-grounds at Mohanpura, Kasganj and Soron. Besides these two roads, three railway approach roads are paid for out of provincial funds. These are all short and only intended to give easy access to a railway station. Two of these are in connection with the station at Kasganj, while the third gives communication with the line at Soron. The total length of the three is under 2 miles.

Local roads. The local roads in this district are divided into five classes, according to the extent to which they are metalled, bridged, drained, &c. The first class are similar in all respects to the provincial roads, being metalled, raised, bridged and drained throughout. There are nearly 103 miles of such roads in the district, the most important being those which lead from Etah to Aliganj, Kasganj, Jalesar and Shikohabad. Others connect Jalesar with Muttra and Aliganj with Marehra, while the remainder consist principally of short lengths of metalled roads laid down as approaches to the railway, or within the limits of a town. Examples of both kinds are found at Patiali and Dundwaraganj. Of second-class roads which are unmetalled but bridged and drained, there are 175 miles in the district, the most important being those which radiate out from Etah to Patiali, Tundla, and Sahawar. The remaining classes of roads are all unmetalled, the third class being both banked and surfaced, while the fourth class is only banked and not surfaced. There are 84 and 103 miles respectively of those roads within the district, and 109 miles of the sixth class which is only cleared. There are no roads of the fifth class. The total annual expenditure on local roads is Rs. 16,493 for first-class and Rs. 4,800 for the other classes.

Bungalows. The district board maintains a staging bungalow at Etah, and inspection houses at Marehra, Aliganj, Dhumri and Patiali. Bungalows for the use of their own officers and of the district staff are kept up by the public works department at Etah, Malawan, Bhadwas, Kasganj and Soron. In addition to these there are rest-houses every few miles along the canal banks

which belong to the irrigation department, but can be used by other officials. These are at Etah, Sunna, Bajhera, Kartala, Chachena, Nidhauli Kalan, Naurai, Gorha, Semanpur, Amanpur, Kiloni, Pehra, Mundha, Dhumri, Jalesar, Pilkathra, Borrah Kalan, Tilokpur, Kinawah, Nawabpur and Badhari Kalan. At intervals along all the more important roads there are *sarais* for native travellers, but these are the property of private owners. Encamping-grounds for marching troops are kept open at Bhadwas, Etah, Malawan, Kasganj, Soron and Mohanpur.

Bridges. Of the bridges in the district the most important is that over the Kali river in the sixty-third mile of the road from Muttra to Kasganj and Bareilly. This consists of seven spans of sixty feet each and carries both the roads and the railway. The Isan is bridged in two places, once in the third mile of the Etah-Jalesar road, where there is a bridge containing three fifteen-foot spans, and again seven miles from Etah, where the road to Shikohabad is taken across the river by a bridge of three spans of sixteen feet each. The only bridge over the Sengar is in the fortieth mile of the road from Muttra to Jalesar and consists of three ten-foot spans. Similar bridges carry the Etah-Nidhauli road and the Etah-Jalesar road across the Arind. There are two small bridges over the Kaki Nadi, one for the Grand Trunk Road and one in the third mile of the road from Etah to Aliganj.

CHAPTER III

THE PEOPLE.

It is impossible to ascertain accurately the population of the Etah district before the census of 1881. Approximate estimates of the inhabitants can be made from the figures of previous enumerations, but the modifications of territory to which the district has been subject from its first formation in 1845 until the transfer of the greater part of the Jalesar pargana from Agra in 1879 render any approach to real accuracy unattainable. The inaccuracy of the earlier censuses however makes this defect of comparatively little moment. Some sort of basis for comparison may be arrived at by adding up the total population of the various parganas out of which the district has been formed, but the alterations in their boundaries made at different times by interchange of villages destroy any pretensions of such a calculation to precision. The first census of which there is any record is that of 1848, which was however, little more than an estimate, when the total population of the parganas amounted to 664,258. At the next enumeration, in 1853, the numbers had risen to 761,473. This enormous increase is probably due rather to some improvement in the methods employed than to any startling advance in the birth-rate. At the next regular census in 1865 the total had dropped to 749,533, a decrease which may be attributed to the effect of the severe famine of 1860-61, with its accompanying mortality and emigration. By 1872 there was a marked recovery, the population having risen to 829,118, the highest yet recorded. From this year onwards we stand on firmer ground, the district having assumed its final shape. **Early enumerations.**

At the next census in 1881 another fall in the population was recorded, the total amounting only to 756,523. A variety of causes probably contributed to this decrease, which was shared by a number of other districts in the duab and eastern **Census of 1881.**

Rohilkhand, the area affected forming a continuous tract stretching from Pilibhit on the east to Muttra on the west, but there can be little doubt that the scarcity of 1878 and the epidemic fever of 1879 were chiefly responsible. This was the opinion of all the district officers at the time and the census officers concurred in their view. Little or none of the decrease can be put down to emigration, for though the percentage of the population recorded in other districts was as high as 16 yet the number of immigrants from other districts recorded in Etah was almost as high, amounting to 15·33 per cent. of the total population.

Census of 1891.

The returns for the 1891 census show the district still on the downward grade as regards population, the total number of inhabitants having sunk to 702,063. This decrease is easily accounted for by the intense agricultural depression consequent on the wet seasons from 1885 to 1889 to which reference has so often been made. It was in the tract north of the Kali Nadi, particularly the Aliganj tahsil, that the damage from flooding, saturation and *kans* was most severe and it was to this tract that the loss of population was confined. While the Etah tahsil had a small addition of 138 to its population, and Jalesar increased its inhabitants by 2,105, the decrease in Kasganj was 24,637 and that in Aliganj no less than 31,806, or over 16 per cent. In addition to this the district suffered terribly from both cholera and small-pox in 1884 and 1889, and it is scarcely surprising that under this accumulation of calamities the population should have fallen off. Some part of the loss was no doubt due to emigration, as many as 19·33 per cent. of the total population being recorded in other districts of the provinces, while the percentage of immigrants was under 16.

Census of 1901.

The last enumeration took place on the 1st of March 1901 after a decade of prosperity only disturbed by the scarcity of 1896-97, by which the district was hardly affected and may even be said to have benefited as a whole owing to the high prices obtainable for agricultural produce. The recovery from the depression of the preceding period was rapid and was accompanied by a no less remarkable rise in the population. The

northern tract, which had suffered most severely, showed the most marked improvement as cultivators crowded back to take up the abandoned lands, the population increasing by nearly 33 per cent. In the south the increase was just under 13 per cent., and the district total stood at 863,948, a rise of 23·1 per cent. since 1891 and 4·2 per cent. above the highest number previously recorded. This percentage of increase is considerably greater than that attained in any other district of the western Indo-Gangetic plain and was only exceeded in the provinces by Cawnpore and Bahraich.

Density. The average density of the population per square mile of total area was 499·1 at the last census. This, though well above the provincial average of 445, is low for the Duab, only three districts showing a smaller figure. The district total is considerably pulled down by the sparsely populated Aliganj tahsil, where the average density per square mile is only 395. Without this the average of the other three tahsils is over 548, a figure only exceeded by four other districts in the western Indo-Gangetic plain. The greatest density is found in the Jalesar tahsil, where there are 587 persons to each square mile of the total area and 913 to each square mile of cultivation. The density per square mile of cultivation for the whole district is 784, and the average number of persons to each acre of cultivation is thus 1·2.

Towns and villages. According to the census returns the district contained 18 towns and 1,466 villages. Seven of the towns contained over 5,000 inhabitants apiece, and among these were 4 municipalities, *viz.* Kasganj, Jalesar, Soron and Etah, and one notified area, Marehra, the other two being the Act XX towns, Aliganj and Sahawar. By far the most important town was Kasganj, with a population of 19,686 and a thriving trade. Jalesar with 14,348 inhabitants is a place of declining importance. Kasganj owes its progress to the railroads and is of vastly more consequence, commercially and otherwise, than Etah, which has only 8,796 inhabitants and owes everything to the fact that it is the headquarters of the district. This dignity it originally attained, when the civil station was moved from Patiali, on account of its comparatively central position on the Grand Trunk Road.

Soron, with a population of 12,175, is a place of pilgrimage pure and simple. Famous as the scene of the Boar incarnation of Vishnu, it attracts thousands of pilgrims every year who come to bathe in the sacred pool of the Burhganga—now fed with water from the canal. It has however little economic importance. Marehra with 8,622 inhabitants, is stationary. Of the 12 Act XX towns the most important from the point of view of trade is Ganj Dundwara, though it ranks only fourth in point of population with 4,273 inhabitants. It is situated on the railway and does a fair and increasing trade in agricultural produce, being the chief market for the east of the district, as Kasganj and Jalesar are for the north and south. Sarai Aghat has just been reduced to the status of a village. Of the 1,407 villages, 957 have less than 500 inhabitants, 348 have between 500 and 1,000, 129 have more than one but less than two thousand, while 33 have over 2,000, but under 5,000 inhabitants. A feature of the Etah villages is the large number of inhabited sites, of which there are no less than 3,926 in the district, the population of some of the larger villages being scattered over quite a number of hamlets. This is a natural and convenient arrangement where the village area is large, enabling the cultivator to live close to his fields and to get to and from his work with the smallest possible waste of time. The essentially agricultural character of the district as a whole is illustrated by the distribution of the population between towns and villages. No less than 86·96 per cent. of the inhabitants of the district live in villages, the urban population forming only 13·04 per cent. of the whole. This proportion of rural population though slightly lower than the provincial average, is exceeded by only four other districts in the western Indo-Gangetic plain.

Migration. The census figures with regard to emigration are of considerable interest in relation to the period of agricultural depression preceding the 1891 census and the recovery of the next decade. While in 1891 the total number of persons born in Etah who were enumerated in other districts of the province was 135,600 it was only 116,642 in 1901, showing that nearly 19,000 people had returned home when the bad seasons had passed away. The percentage of the persons born in the district has

also increased. Of all the persons enumerated in Etah 84·39 per cent. were natives of the district, as compared with 84·04 in 1891, while 12·81 per cent. were born in contiguous districts and 2·8 in other parts of India. Of the immigrants, who formed 15·6 per cent. of the total population, the great majority were females, as is usual in the western districts where the brides are commonly taken from the east. Another indication of the large immigration which has helped to swell the district total during the decade is to be found in a comparison of the numbers actually enumerated and the estimate of the probable numbers based on the vital statistics. Whereas in the provinces, as a whole, the former were considerably smaller than the latter, in Etah they were in excess by as much as 44,756.

Sex.

According to the census returns the number of females to every 100 males in Etah was 85·1. The only three districts in the provinces which showed a lower proportion were the neighbouring ones of Mainpuri, Etawah and Farrukhabad, while Budaun on the other side of the Ganges returned only ·3 per cent. more. Low as the figures for Etah are there has been a steady increase during the last three decades, from 82·9 in 1881 and 83·2 in 1891, while the same tendency has been observable in Mainpuri and Etawah. It is noteworthy that though among Musalmans the men outnumber the women, the disproportion is less than in the case of Hindus, the respective numbers of women to 100 men being 89·7 and 84·5 for the two religions. The enormously larger number of Hindus in the district makes the district figures approximate to the latter percentage. It is not easy to account for the low proportion of females among Hindus in this region. Though female infanticide was formerly prevalent the numbers of the castes affected were too few to influence appreciably the district totals. And any satisfactory explanation must account for the fact that in the eastern districts of the provinces the proportions are inverted. But no such explanation seems yet to have been put forward.

Religions.

The census figures show that in 1901 the district contained 758,892 Hindus, 92,497 Musalmans, 4,365 Christians, 4,344 Jains, 3,069 Aryas, 779 Sikhs and two Jews. The distribution by tahsils and police circles will be found in the appendix. As in other

districts Musalmans have increased at a faster rate than Hindus, the respective percentages of increase being 26 and 22, but the population is still overwhelmingly Hindu, that religion claiming 87·84 per cent. of the inhabitants, while only 10·71 per cent. are adherents of Islam. The few Sikhs in the district are all in government service. The Jains, who are almost entirely confined to the two tahsils of Etah and Jalesar, are chiefly grain-merchants, and their numbers have slightly decreased since 1891. The Arya Samaj, on the other hand has multiplied four-fold, its numbers having been only 764 in 1891. This is a higher rate of increase than that shown for the provinces generally, but for some reasons the Samaj has been more successful in the Duab than in any other part of the provinces, the western Indo-Gangetic plain contributing 32,398 out of the total provincial increase of 43,229.

Christianity. The progress of Christian missionary effort in Etah during the last two census periods has been remarkable. In 1881 there were only 117 Christians in the district—a falling-off of 19 since 1872. In 1891 the numbers had risen to 520, and in 1901 there were no less than 4,365. For this increase the credit is mainly due to the American Methodist Mission, which has an elaborate organization in the district, divided into four "circuits" corresponding to the tahsils and controlled from Agra; its converts numbered 3,726. The American Presbyterians, who began work in this district in 1843, have recently made Etah a full mission station with two ministers (at present the Revs. A. McGaw and J. H. Lawrence) to superintend it, and have also 7 out-stations. The Church Missionary Society too has branches at Soron and Kasganj which are subordinate to the mission station at Aligarh. The converts to Christianity are mainly Bhangis with a sprinkling of Chamars, but Muhammadans and high caste Hindus have also contributed to the number of its adherents.

Hindus. At the census of 1901, the vast majority of Hindus in Etah, as in the provinces generally, were recorded without any specification of religious denomination, but a certain number claimed to be included in the better known sects; 41,142, or 5·4 per cent., declared themselves monotheists; 30,874, or 4·06 per cent., were Vaishnavites; 14,432, or less than 2 per cent., were followers of Nanak Shah, the religious reformer from whose

doctrines Govind Shah developed the Sikh faith. Lingaits and Saivites, both in reality orthodox sects who worship Mahadeo in his different capacities, mustered almost equal numbers, each accounting for rather less than 1 per cent. of the total Hindu population. The only other sect found in any number was the Ramanandi, from which the Nanak Shahi, like the Kabir Panthi and others, first sprang. It counted 9,992 adherents, or 1·05 per cent. of the Hindus. Several other sects were represented, but their numbers were insignificant. But if the sects into which the Hindu population is divided are few the castes are many, members of no less than 63 separate and distinct castes being found in the district, while 35 persons calling themselves Hindus failed to specify their caste. Nine of these castes returned over 20,000 representatives apiece, and between them comprised 76·8 per cent. of the total Hindu population. Seven others had over 10,000, and twelve had less than one hundred each.

Chamars. By far the most numerous caste in the district is that of the Chamars with 114,355 representatives, forming 15·07 per cent. of the total Hindu population. Constituting as they do the great bulk of the rural labouring population they are pretty evenly distributed over the whole district. They own no land and hold but little as tenants, or if they have any cultivation it is usually small in amount and ancillary to their main source of livelihood. They are often known locally as Pharaits, and are divided in this district into two great subdivisions, the Jatwas and the Ahabars, of whom the latter are considered an inferior and illegitimate class with whom the Jatwas will never eat nor intermarry. Otherwise the caste presents no points of peculiarity in this district.

Ahirs. Next in numerical importance come the Ahirs, of whom in 1901 there were 88,124 in the district, the caste thus forming 11·61 per cent. of the Hindu population. They have increased considerably in numbers since 1891, when they amounted to 78,907. According to tradition they were the great land-owning tribe in the district from the sixth to the tenth century A.D., being compelled to give way before the immigrant tribes of Thakurs who, driven from their seats in the west and north, spread themselves over the central Duab. They still possess

proprietary rights in a large number of villages and have been steadily recovering their importance since the introduction of British rule. Since the last settlement they have extended their domains from 35,852 to 44,777 acres, and the process is still going on. Sir H. M. Elliott's classification of Ahirs does not seem to hold good in this district, where they are all either Ghosis or Kamariyas. The latter title is not the name of a mere *got*, but of a large tribe which includes within it several *gots* such as the Sembarphula, Bhogita, Diswar, Mujharanwa, Jhinwariya and Barothe. Kor is neither a tribe nor a *got*, but a synonymous term for a Kamariya. Among the *gots* of the Ghosis are the Bilahariya, Diswar (found in both tribes), Rawat, Barawiya and Phatak. The Ahirs are very ignorant as to their antecedents, but a tradition survives among them that they once possessed a tract of country towards Gujarat which was called Abhira-Desa, and that they were dispossessed after a great battle by the Pandava Arjuna. They were then scattered, and many of them came and settled in Muttra. Arjuna and Krishna were contemporaries, and all accounts agree that the latter was brought up in the house of Nanda the Ahir at Gokul. However, once arrived at Muttra, they gradually spread eastward through Oudh and the Benares division, and, until the irruption of the Musalmans and the great movement of the Rajput tribes, possessed large estates in the Central Duab. The Etah local legend of the western origin and former importance of the Ahirs is borne out both by the older Sanskrit writings and the early European geographers. The Vishnu Purana almost always mentions the Sudras and Abhiras together as if conterminous and occupying the west or north-west towards the Indus, stating in one place that "in the extreme west are the Sawashtras, Suras, Abhiras, &c." Now the Sudras are the Sudrakai of Strabo and the Sudraci of Pliny, who occupied the limit of Alexander's eastern conquests, while Sawashtra was the old name of Gujarat. Further, Ptolemy, who follows the author of the Periplus, mentions Aberia as one of the provinces of the Indo-Scythian monarchy, placing it north of the first bifurcation of the Indus. The fact that they gave their name to a province which figures so largely in the early geographies clearly indicates the

former importance of the Ahirs and corroborates their traditions. In Etah the Ahirs claim to have held Patiali, Aliganj and Sakit, deriving the name Patiali from the legend that the land on which the town now stands was given to an Ahir women named Patiya. The Magheli Ahirs again have a tradition that they were once proprietors of Sakit, and to this day they lay their *akhat* at marriage festivals in memory of their old home there. Aliganj is universally admitted to have been until lately in the possession of the Ahirs. They also held a considerable *taluqa* in pargana Barna with Katingra as headquarters, but owing to the difficulty they gave in the collection of land revenue they were dispossessed by the Nawab of Farrukhabad. The two tribes of Ahirs in Etah have no tradition as to the cause of their separation. The Ghosis claim pre-eminence for themselves on the ground that they are mentioned in the sacred books under the name of Ghosas, while the Kamariyas are nowhere alluded to. They smoke from the same *huqqa*, and eat *pakki* together but not *kachchi*. In both tribes each *got* is in theory equal in dignity. The levirate prevails under the name of *dharma*, The village Ahirs despise their brethren of the towns as effeminate and, as a rule, refuse to intermarry with them. They are now mostly cultivators, though a large number still follow their traditional occupation as herdsmen. The caste is generally to be found residing in outlying hamlets, often situated in the poorest portion of the village, a habit no doubt adopted to facilitate the grazing of their numerous cattle. Though a large supply of manure is obtained from these, the Ahirs are untidy and wasteful cultivators. This caste contributes largely to the criminal classes.

Next to Ahirs in number come Lodhas, forming, with 87,711 representativss, 11·56 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are most numerous in the Etah tahsil and fewest in Jalesar, which contains only 7,761 of them. They are excellent cultivators, ranking second only to Kachhis, though their cultivation is of a broader style. There are seven *gots* of Lodhas in the district, the most numerous being the Paturiyas, who are found in every pargana, though principally in Etah and Marehra. They used frequently to be lessees of small villages and were Lodhas

the sole managers of the estate of the old Rajas of Etah—hence the title *mukaddam* which they arrogate to themselves. The Khagis, oftener called Kisans, are most numerous in parganas Sonhar and Barna, where their principal occupation is the manufacture of ropes and gunny bags (*tat*). Most of the Lodhas point to Atranji Khera as their original home, and many of them now follow the occupation of village bankers.

Rajputs.

Rajputs or Thakurs numbered 80,492 persons, or 10·61 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are most numerous in Jalesar, where they form over 15 per cent. of the Hindus, and fewest in Etah, where the percentage sinks to 8. Here, as in the neighbouring districts, they have been steadily losing their possessions since the advent of British rule. At the 1873 settlement over 48 per cent. of the total area of the district was in their hands. They now own little more than 38 per cent. The loss is not confined to any one part of the district but is common to every pargana, though least in the Jalesar tahsil, where the acquisitions of the Raja of Awa have masked the losses of the other members of the caste and the percentage has only fallen from 76·17 to 73·51. Elsewhere the decrease has been much more marked. In Pachlana for instance Thakurs now own only 31·5 per cent. of the pargana instead of 67·4, and in Soron their former 9,047 acres have shrunk to 3,560.

Rajput clans.

Representatives of 32 different Rajput clans were found in the district in 1901, while 8,208 persons simply recorded themselves as Rajputs without further specification. Most numerous were the Chauhans with 15,449 members. This great clan, one of the *Agnikula*, or fire-born tribes of the Rajputs of the solar line, is in this district of the same stock as the Chauhans of Mainpuri and Etawah and claims like them descent from Prithiraj, the last Chauhan king of Delhi, who was defeated and slain in 1193 A.D. by Shahab-ud-din Ghori. The Raja of Rajaur is the head of the clan in this district, and some account of their local legends will be found in the sketch of the history of his family. Next in number come the Jadons, of whom 12,081 were enumerated, principally in the Jalesar tahsil, the home of the chiefs of Umargarh and Awa, who are regarded as the heads of the clan in this district, though their claim to Jadon blood is not

recognized by the Karauli Raja, the acknowledged head of the tribe in India. Their own account is that they came into Etah with other tribes of Rajputs after the capture of Chitor by Ala-ud din Khilji in 1303. Their leader was Raja Sheopal of Biana and they originally settled on the Chirar mound (*khera*) of Sona, about 4 miles south of Jalesar town, on a bluff overhanging the valley of the Isan, and their descendants founded Ramgarh near Sona and Narki, Mursana and Daulatabad in tahsil Firozabad of the Agra district. It has been said of the present Jadons that they have "not a relic of Rajput chivalry among them, but have emphatically turned their swords into ploughshares. They are known as good thrifty men of business with a strong touch of the usurer about them. They have flourished under the reign of British law and civil courts, and have gradually supplanted the Muhammadan conquerors as well as the other tribes of Thakurs." Next in number to the Jadons come the Rathors, who are chiefly to be found in parganas Azamnagar and Sonhar. Their local history is related hereafter under the notice of the Raja of Rampur. The Solankis, who numbered 6,921, still hold proprietary rights in a good many villages, chiefly in parganas Sirhpura, Sahawar-Karsana and Soron. They claim to have come originally from Pali in the west, and to have settled for a time at Tank Tari, whence they set out a thousand years ago under Raja Maldeo Surmani, also called Raja Sonmatti, and his son, Kalyan Mal, and proceeded towards the Ganges. They took possession of all the country around the sacred city of Soron, which was then in ruins; and, selecting a spot near the old site, Raja Sonmatti built a new town, which he called Sonron or Soron. He then divided his followers into three parties, one of which remained in Soron, while a second went to Utarna and a third occupied Sirsai near Amapur. From these settlements they spread all over the country, and were until quite recent times the most important Rajput clan in the north-east of the district. Four great houses of Solankis were in possession when the English came. These were (1) the Lakhmipur family, which received most of its property by imperial grants during the reign of Aurangzeb; (2) the Mohanpur family founded by Rao Madan Singh much of whose vast property was squandered by his son Tej

Singh, while the last great head of the house, Rao Karan Khan, became a convert to Islam; (3) the Shamspur-Jalilpur house, long since gone to ruin, the head of which was formerly known as Raja Solankhiyan; (4) the Jarari family, of which a few members in miserable circumstances may still be found at Jalalpur Pahra in pargana Sonhar. Every third year Bhats from Tank Tori visit the Solankhis in this district. The Solankhis give their daughters in marriage to Chauhans and Bhadaurias and take daughters-in-law from Kalyas, Tomars, Rathors, Bachhals, Baïs, Katehriyas Gaurs, Pundirs, Bargujars and the Chauhans of the Jarasmi eight villages. They were formerly notorious for infanticide, but this crime has now been stamped out. Gaurs numbered 4,034 and Katehriyas 3,496. The former are usually supposed to derive their origin and name from Gonda, which was formerly known as Gauda, while the latter take theirs from Katehra, the old title of Rohilkand. But the traditions of the Gaurs of the Nidhpur pargana assert that they came from Gadda Gach Chakol in Rohilkhand to bathe in the Ganges near Barhola, when they were invited by the local Brahmans to assist them against the Musalmans. The Gaurs consented, and finding the Musalmans intoxicated during the *Diwali* slaughtered them all without distinction of age or sex, and took possession of their villages. A curious custom still exists in commemoration of the assistance which the Brahmans rendered in giving information of the time when the Gaurs should make their attack, the Brahmans receiving a special fee, known as the *khera-patti-ka-haqq* whenever a Gaur marriage is celebrated in Barhola. For their services during the Mutiny the Gaurs of Barhola were rewarded with the village of Bhargaon. Gharawars, to the number of 3,023, are settled in the north of the district in parganas Faizpur Badaria, Soron, Pachlana and Bilram, a few being also found in Marehra. They have few legends of their origin, but some of them trace it to a place which they call Kaimur, somewhere in the west, whence they came to serve the Delhi emperor, who settled them in Ghuranpur in pargana Soron. They give their daughters to Chauhans and Pundirs, and take in marriage the daughters of Bais, Katiyars, Rathors, Gahlots, Bachhals and Bargujars. Gahlots, of whom there were 2,948, are most numerous in Jalesar where

their first immigration is ascribed to Rana Katira, who established himself at Shahnagar Timrana, about 3 miles south-west of Jalesar, and is the reputed founder of the Jalesar fort, though another tradition attribute it to Jarasandha, the King of Magadha and famous opponent of Krishna. Ultimately the Gahlots broke up into three branches, with their headquarters at Shahnagar Timrana, Sahpan and Rohini, and they have now succumbed entirely to the Jadons, losing all influence in the district. The Tomars (2,853) possess rights in a number of villages, mostly in pargana Etah-Sakit. The Etah colony claims descent from the fourth son of Anang Pal, and say that they came from Aysa in pargana Ahnau in Gwalior territory some two hundred years ago to Nandgaon a hamlet of Jirismai. After this they turned the Bhattis out of Loya Badshahpur and acquired a number of other villages in the neighbourhood. These Tomars bear the honorary title of *mukaddam*. The other Tomars in the north of the district trace their origin direct to Delhi. The Bais (2,605), most of whom are found in pargana Nidhpur, claim to be true Tilokchandi Bais who came to the district from Dundia Khera in the time of Ala-ud-din Ghori, under one Nidh Singh of Sikandarpur Bais. He founded Nidhpur, which is now a mere ruined *khera*. The Bargujars (2,343) are collected chiefly in Etah-Sakit and Marehra, and are divided into three classes: (1) those descended from the Anupshahr Bargujars; (2) those sprung from the colonists of Mathur-Bareli; and (3) those tracing their origin to the Bargujars of Fatehpur Sikri. These last call themselves Sikrawars and were separately enumerated at the census when they numbered 500. The Bargujars seem as a clan to have been peculiarly susceptible to Muhammadan influence, and many of them became Nau-Muslims, as the Rajput converts were called. A number of the Mohanpur colony were so converted in the first year of British rule and embraced Islam as *chelas* of the Farrukhabad Nawab. These converts, now a very wealthy community, still pay every possible respect to Hindu customs at birth and marriage festivals. They live on terms of the closest intimacy with their Hindu clansmen, and are as proud as they of being Bargujar Thakurs. The Pundirs (2,254) who possess proprietary rights in a number of villages in pargana Bilram, claim to have

come from Hardwar under their Raja Damar Singh and established themselves in Gambhira in Aligarh, re-naming the place Bijaigarh after Bijai, the brother of Damar Singh. The Etah Pundirs are a colony from Bijaigarh and hold a good position, intermarrying with the highest Rajput clans. The Kachhwahas (876) are landholders in Etah, Marehra and Azamnagar. The latter colony claim to have been given their villages by Akbar in person in reward for good services done to him. The Raghubansis (850) are found only in Nidhpur, whither they claim to have come from Ajodhiya with Kusha, son of Rama, who founded Kusol and called it after his own name. At the time of Shahab-ud-din Ghori's invasion 42 villages round Kusol belonged to the clan. The Raghubansis are a fine intelligent race and, professing to be *bhagats,* usually wear the red *tilak* on their foreheads. The Dhakaras (674), who are found in Nidhpur and Marehra, were formerly numerous in Jalesar where in the troublous times that accompanied the break-up of the Muhammadan power they acquired an evil reputation as bandits and dacoits. They were finally suppressed by the British, and made their last bid for power in the Mutiny, when they took forcible possession of their old fort at Barhan, which had been purchased by the Raja of Awa. After a desperate resistance they were expelled by the Raja's Mewati mercenaries under his kinsman Kushal Singh, aided by the levies of Tikam Singh of Umargarh, and their pseudo-chief Gurdhan Singh, formerly a *gariwan,* was killed at the head of his clan. Of the remaining clans none are either numerous or important enough to call for detailed description.

Brahmans.

Brahmans increased from 53,313 in 1891 to 62,840 in 1901, while their possessions, which at the 1873 settlement formed 11·2 per cent. of the total area of the district, now amount to 13·2 per cent. Over a third of them are collected in the Kasganj tahsil, but their chief strongholds are parganas Barna and Soron, where they hold 36 and 33 per cent. of the total area respectively, and where they have long been established as landowners, the former pargana having been given them in *shankalap* by the Rathor chief of Sonhar. In both these parganas however they have been losing ground, the gains of the caste being due to the successful operations of its money-lending members

in other parts of the district. As agriculturists Brahmans are not a success in this district, being characterised by the Settlement Officer as the worst cultivators of all the castes. Most of the Etah Brahmans belong to the Sanad subdivision, which forms a connecting link between the Kanaujiyas of Farrukhabad and the Gaurs of Meerut and the Panjab. According to their tradition Rama on his return from Lanka, assembled a large number of Brahmans at the Rudayan tank near Shahpur Tahla in pargana Azamnagar to perform a *Sanaha yug* or sacrifice. At the conclusion of the ceremony he distributed among them grants of land and money, and the name Sanadh is derived either from the ceremony in which they participated, or from the Sanskrit root *san* "to obtain as a gratuity." A few however of the Sanadhs, who belong to the Dandotiya *al*, claim a different origin, saying that their ancestors came from Gwalior where the Emperor Akbar had given them a *chaurasi* (84) of villages on the banks of the Chambal. These villages, known as the Dandotgarh Chaurasi, are said to be in the possession of Sanadhs at the present day. The other sub-castes of Brahmans represented in the district are the Gaurs, Kanaujiyas, Mathuriya Chaubes, Gujratis, Saraswats, Sarwariyas, Palliwals, Ojhas and Maithils, but their numbers are comparatively insignificant. Only 17 Mahabrahmans were enumerated in Etah in 1901, but this low figure is probably due, as in the case of other castes whose names are held in odium, to unwillingness to admit membership.

Kachhis. There were 61,970 Kachhis enumerated in the district in 1901, more than a third of them being recorded in the Aliganj tahsil, while Jalesar contained only 5,877. They are, as everywhere else, the best cultivators in the district, making a speciality of market-gardening and opium-cultivation. They are generally to be found in the vicinity of the towns where their produce can find a quick and ready market. The environs of Kasganj in particular afford a good example of their methods of cultivation. In this district they are subdivided in the three sections of Hardiyas, Kanaujiyas and Saksenas, who do not associate or intermarry with one another. Of these the Kanaujiyas, who claim to be immigrants from Kanauj, are

found in parganas Etah and Sonhar; the Saksenas, who are connected with the old city of Sankisa and are also called Baramashis from their practice of keeping their fields in cultivation all the year round, are found all over the district and are the best off: while the Hardiyas, so-called from their cultivation of *hardi* or *haldi* (turmeric), are found chiefly in the Etah and Aliganj tahsils. The women of the last-named class wear glass armlets to distinguish themselves from the Saksenas, who wear *churis* made of lac.

Gadariyas. The Gadariyas are unusually numerous in Etah, where in 1901, with 33,743 representatives they formed, 4·45 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are pretty evenly distributed through the tahsils, and mostly follow their traditional avocation of herding sheep and goats, though many have taken to cultivation, with very moderate success. At the last settlement they owned some land in pargana Bilram, which they have since lost.

Banias. Banias numbered 27,920 persons, or 3·68 per cent. of the Hindu population. Both their numbers and their possessions have enormously increased in the last 30 years. At the 1873 settlement there were 21,364 Banias in the district, owning 41,731 acres. They now own 85,002 acres, or 7·7 per cent. of the total area. They are most numerous in the Kasganj tahsil and fewest in Jalesar, but their acquisitions have been fairly impartially made all over the district. In Jalesar for example their property has increased from 4,636 to 7,215 acres, in Faizpur Badaria from 1,310 to 2,800 acres, in Aulai from 4,985 to 9,051 acres and in Kasganj from 203 to 5,494 acres. These great gains have been made at the expense of the older proprietary classes, especially the Thakurs, and cannot be considered of advantage to the district generally. The Thakur may be, and often is, a careless landlord and a slovenly cultivator, but at least he is usually resident in his village and in touch with the needs of his tenantry. But the Bania has no connection with the land either by instinct or by training. Land is to him simply an investment to be made to yield as high a return as possible, and his only interest is to secure the full and punctual payment of his dues. In Etah only 27 per cent. of the Bania landlords are resident: the rest are absentees managing their estates, which they rarely or never visit, through agents.

Of the sub-castes separately recorded at the last census the most numerous were the Agarwal with 3,664 representatives and the Baraseni with 3,458; but the great majority, to the number of 19,820, were recorded simply as Banias without further specification. A great many of the Etah Banias are Saraogis of the Padawati *al*, who assert that their original home was the old Buddhist town of Atranji, where is the immense *khera* which will be noticed hereafter. Other Saraogis in Sakit are of the Bhanchu *al* and settled in the district some three centuries ago under one Lala Madhukar. The disproportion between the sexes in this caste is remarkable in this district. The census returns show that the average number of women to every 100 men among the Banias all over the provinces is 92; but in Etah it is only 81—a lower proportion than even that obtaining among the Thakurs, who had 85 women to every 100 of the other sex. The explanation of infanticide is not available, as this caste has never been even suspected of that crime, but there may have been some concealment of women at the enumeration.

Kahars. The only other caste with a membership of over 20,000 was the Kahar, of which 25,024 representatives were returned, distributed in almost equal proportions among the four tahsils, and forming altogether 3·30 per cent. of the total Hindu population. Their occupations in this district are the usual ones of fishing, cultivation—particularly of the water-nut (*singhara*)—palanquin carrying and domestic service. Where they are engaged in fishing they are commonly known as Dhimars; but in Etah this is as a rule only a subsidiary employment and not their chief means of livelihood.

Other Hindu castes. The remaining Hindu castes which occur in numbers exceeding 10,000 are Koris, Barhais, Dhobis, Bhangis, Nais, Telis and Kumhars. They have few if any points of difference from their brethren in other districts and call for little comment. Koris numbered 19,390, or 2·56 per cent. of the Hindus, and were found principally in Etah and Kasganj, the other tahsils containing between them considerably less than one-third of the district total. They are properly thé Hindu weaver-caste, but a good many have taken to field labour and cultivation: 16,881 Barhais or carpenters were found. They are locally divided into three

sub-castes who neither eat nor intermarry with one another. The first of these style themselves Ujhadon Brahmans, wear the sacred thread (*janeo*) and regard themselves as superior to all the rest. They point to Muttra as their original home and sometimes call themselves Mathuriyas. The second class call themselves Khatis and claim to have originally been Jhangara Rajputs, and the third, called Dhimar Mahor, are, as their name denotes, inferior to the rest. Dhobis, or washermen, numbered 16,138, and were, as might be expected, pretty evenly distributed over the district. Bhangis were represented by 15,821 persons, of whom only 1,590 were recorded in Jalesar, which had however considerably more than its share of the Musalman variety of this indispensable caste. Nais or barbers numbered 14,277 and were found everywhere. Telis or oil-pressers numbered 13,983; they belong for the most part to the Rathor subdivision of the caste. The competition of the foreign mineral oil has driven many of them to abandon their ancestral calling and take to agriculture. The Kumhars, who numbered 13,535, are in this district divided into Bardhiyas and Gadheris, names derived from *bard* (a bullock) and *gaddha* (an ass) the animals employed by them to carry their pots. Of the castes with less than 10,000 representatives apiece the most important were the Kayasths with 8,664. Though comparatively few in number they take fourth place in the district as landowners, holding 12·5 per cent. of the total area, and are increasing their possessions in the district as a whole, though they have lost in Jalesar since the last settlement. The principal Kayasth families are those of Kasganj, descended from the late Raja Dilsukh Rai, of Sakit and of Patiali. The estates of the former are however desperately embarrassed and much has been already sold. The other castes with over 2,000 representatives are Fakirs (5,680), Dhanuks (5,386), from whom most of the village watchmen are recruited, Sunars (5,195), Darzis (4,879), Banjaras (4,090), Khatiks (4,086), Bharbhunjas (3,984), Kadheras (3,517), Bhats (3,391), Luniyas (2,722) and Lohars (2,153). Among these the Banjaras deserve mention on account of their unusual numbers, which have more than doubled since 1891, more being recorded in this district than anywhere else in the division. Their

primary occupation is the transport of grain by means of pack-bullocks, but they also go in largely for cattle-dealing and are suspected of a good deal of cattle-theft, their mode of life and their connection in the trade giving them exceptional opportunities for the removal and concealment of stolen animals. The Kadheras are another comparatively rare caste. They are really a sub-caste of Mallahs and have taken to cultivation in addition to their ancestral calling of boatmen. The Ahars are a caste remarkable on the ground of rarity, being scarcely found outside the Rohilkhand and Meerut divisions. They numbered 1,876, of whom the majority were in the Etah tahsil, only 5 being recorded in Jalesar. They resemble the Ahirs in custom as in name, though any racial connection is contemptuously denied by both. Another rare caste are the Khagis, found nowhere else in the Agra division, of whom there were 742 in the district—nearly all in the Kasganj and Aliganj tahsils. They are excellent agriculturists, resembling the Lodhas in this as in most of their other customs and characteristics. Budaun is the great stronghold of the caste, and the Etah Khagis claim, like them, to have been originally Chauhan Thakurs, who were governors of Soron under the Delhi emperors. Failing to pay their revenue they were attacked by the imperial army and lost heavily. The widows of the clan remarried (*kaj karna*) contrary to the customs of Thakurs and their descendants thus obtained the name of Khagis.

Criminal tribes.

Etah has long been notorious as the home of criminal tribes. Haburas, Beriyas and Sansiyas all haunt the district, particularly the Jalesar tahsil, where they have some unexplained connection with the shapeless mounds which mark the site of Nuh Khera. Until recent years it was their annual practice to assemble for a month or two during the rainy season at this place and hold councils, at which various ceremonies both tribal and religious were performed, the consumption of large quantities of liquor playing a principal part in the ritual. These gatherings have now been abandoned since the general raid made on the tribes a few years ago, which drove many of them to seek new hunting-grounds in Bengal and other provinces; there they usually pose as Karwalas. All these tribes are vagrants and

criminals by profession, though they differ in degree of criminality. The Sansiyas are perhaps the worst, as, unlike the Beriyas and Haburas, they are always ready to commit violence in carrying out their robberies. But none of them make any pretence of having a lawful occupation ; they wander gipsy-like about the country, maintaining themselves by theft and, in the case of the Beriyas at least, by the prostitution of their women. Their habits render continual police surveillance necessary, and this fact probably accounts for the scanty numbers recorded at the last census, the instinct of self-preservation teaching them the wisdom of concealing their identity so far as possible. Though they are all well-known to frequent the district no Sansiyas were recorded, and only 171 Beriyas and 53 Haburas. Hitherto these tribes have proved quite incorrigible, defying all attempts to reclaim them. In 1907 eight gangs of Beriyas and Haburas were seized and compelled to settle in villages within the police circles of Etah, Awa, Umargarh and Amanpur, being prevented by police guards from resuming their wandering life. But the experiment cannot yet be said to have been successful. Though provided with land, cattle and implements of agriculture, they give constant trouble, committing all manner of offences from petty crop-stealing to highway-robbery. The Umargarh gangs had to be removed to the Awa circle, as they were discovered to be exploiting the neighbouring circles of the Agra district; and at the main settlement at Chamkari in the Etah circle nine of the worst offenders recently had to be imprisoned under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Another tribe of gipsies and prostitutes with marked criminal tendencies is that of the Nats, of whom no less than 1,724 were enumerated at the census. They are professional tumblers and acrobats, and in Etah a distinction is drawn between the Baghaliya Nats, who dance on ropes, and the Kalabaz, who perform somersaults and other athletic feats. Besides this they make various articles out of grass and reeds, and practise surgery and physic in a small way, indulging in petty theft when opportunity offers. The Kanjars are another gipsy tribe of degraded habits and doubtful reputation, who were found to the number of 365. They are however showing leanings towards a more settled

mode of life and many of them are taking to field labour, while most of the manufactures of the various products of the jungle grasses, such as *sirki* and *khas khas*, are in their hands. Of the nomad tribe of Aheriyas 286 were recorded in the district. Their ostensible means of subsistence are the collection of reeds for basket-making and of gum from the *dhak* tree, " but the business which they chiefly carry on is burglary and highway robbery, and they are about the most active and determined criminals in the province." The Etah branch of the tribe was specially placed under the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act (XXVII of 1871) but has lately been removed, some amendment of manners having been observed though nothing like a complete reformation has yet been achieved: an entire muhalla in Marehra town is inhabited by these gentry. The Baheliyas, who numbered 684, can perhaps scarcely be classed as a criminal tribe, though they are notoriously untrustworthy and of unsettled habits; they are claimed as caste-fellows by the Aheriyas, who still make honourable mention of the names of two Baheliyas of the Jalesar tahsil as having been the men who first taught them to rob on the highway. They are by profession hunters and bird-trappers. Another caste of hunters with criminal leanings is that of the Pasis, who numbered 245 and are, on the principle of setting a thief to catch a thief, employed in many places as chaukidars.

Musalmans.

The Musalman population of Etah, which forms only 10·71 per cent. of the whole, is, as is usual in these provinces, almost entirely of the Sunni sect, no less than 96·2 per cent. being so recorded at the census, while only ·55 per cent. declared themselves Shias. The only other sect found in any numbers were the Lalbegis, of whom there were 1,676, a total which very nearly agrees with that of the Musalman Bhangis, from whose ranks the worshippers of Lalbeg are solely recruited. The Musalmans are divided like the Hindus into castes, of which many as 33 are found in Etah, while 30 persons did not specify their caste. Only two of the castes contain more than 10,000 members, and five others have more than 5,000 apiece.

Sheikhs.

The most numerous caste is that of the Sheikhs, forming with 15,364 representatives 16·61 per cent. of the total Musalman population. Their principal sub-division in this district is the

Qureshi with 5,800 members, next in importance being the Bani Israil with 1,311. The Sheikhs are found in all the tahsils, but are most numerous in Aliganj and fewest in Jalesar.

Pathans. Pathans were next, to the number of 12,445 or 13·45 per cent. of the Muhammadan population. They comprise a large number of subdivisions, among which that of the Lodis is the largest, containing 2,178 persons. Ghoris with 1,097, Yusufzais with 1,578 and Muhammadzais with 1,120 members apiece, are other considerable clans. Their principal colony is that of Sahawar, of which Chaudhri Nurullah Khan is the head. The estates of this house have however greatly diminished during the last half century.

Saiyids. The Saiyids, though their numbers are small, amounting only to 3,726, are of greater local importance than any other clan of Muhammadan. They too include a number of classes, of whom the Husainis, the Jafaris and the Bukharis are the most numerous. The leading Saiyid family is that of Marehra—a description of which will be found elsewhere.

Other Musalmans. Of the remaining Musalman castes the most important are Faqirs with 7,194 representatives; Rajputs, mostly Bhattis and Chauhans, with 6,147; Behnas or Dhunas, who are properly speaking cotton-carders, with 5,493; Julahas, or weavers, with 5,212, the great majority of whom are in the Kasganj tahsil; Bhistis or watermen with 5,040; Qassabs or butchers with 4,161; Lohars or blacksmiths with 4,119; Manihars or glass bangle manufacturers with 2,563; Telis, or oil-pressers, with 2,290; and Bhatiaras, or innkeepers, with 1,958. Mention may also be made of the Tawaifs, or professional prostitute caste, who are found in somewhat unusual numbers in the district, and among whom, as was to be expected, the women out-number the men by 3 to 2. Mughals are somewhat rare in Etah, only 1,178 being found altogether, of whom 244 belong to the Chagtai clan. The Kambohs, of whom 378 were enumerated, all in the Etah tahsil, are a tribe of well-conducted agriculturists, and very scarce outside the Meerut division. They hold as proprietors no less than 12,383 acres.

Occupations. Etah is an essentially agricultural district, with only one town of any size and few manufactures or industries. It is not therefore surprising to find, that according to the census returns,

68·7 per cent. of the population are dependent in one way or another upon agriculture for their living, either as landlords, tenants, or field labourers. This figure includes not only the actual workers but also their families and other persons supported by them, and is above the provincial average of 65·4. The semi-agricultural pursuits connected with the provision and care of animals accounted for a further 2·2 per cent. The industrial population formed 13·8 per cent. of the whole, most of whom were engaged in the preparation of articles of food and drink, 5·4 per cent. of the population being recorded under this head; while 3·6 per cent. were employed in the manufacture of textile fabrics and dress, and 1·07 per cent. in metal-work, the remainder being engaged in the production of articles of wood, leather, earthenware and so forth. Personal service occupied 5·9 per cent.; general labour other than agriculture 5·2 per cent.; government service 1·3 per cent.; commerce ·6 per cent. and professional occupations 1·1 per cent. The last two are very little below the provincial averages of ·7 and 1·3 per cent. The remaining 1·3 per cent. is made up of persons of independent means, a vague term which includes gentlemen with private incomes, pensioners, mendicants and those temporarily entertained at the state's expense in jails and reformatories.

Language and literature. Practically the whole population, or 99·92 per cent., speak the dialect known as western Hindi, two-thirds of the insignificant remainder speaking Rajasthani, the tongue of the Marwari money-lenders and traders. The principal peculiarities of the local speech are the substitution of a final "o" for "a" and "e" for "i," and a trick of alternately raising and lowering the voice when talking which gives a curious semi-chanting sound to their conversation. Literature is little practised, though there are eight printing presses in the district—six at Etah, one at Kasganj and one at Awa, which are all under native management and print Nagri and Urdu characters. Several *sabhas* or literary societies exist, but their membership is small and their activities lie rather in the direction of criticism than of production.

Proprietary tenures. The proprietary tenures found in the district are those common to the rest of the division. The 1,466 villages of the district are now divided into 3,065 mahals, of which 946

are held in single *zamindari*, 565 in perfect *pattidari*, 380 in imperfect *pattidari*, and 42 in *bhaiyachara* tenure, the remainder being either revenue-free or government property. In actual acreage single *zamindari* considerably preponderates, amounting to nearly one-third of the whole, while the shares held by each proprietor under this form of tenure average as much as 377 acres—a figure which contrasts strongly with the minute subdivision of property which has taken place under the various co-parcenary tenures. Excluding the area held by single proprietors, the average holding of each proprietor in the district is only 23 acres, while in the case of the *bhaiyachara* tenure it is as small as 12 acres. The large estates lie mainly in the south and west of the district, the north and east being thus fiscally as well as physically the most precarious. Minute subdivision has been carried to its extreme limit in Soron, where the average size of holdings under all forms of tenure is only 11 acres, of which 8 acres would represent the area at present under cultivation. It is obvious that this does not leave much margin for contraction of cultivation in bad seasons, and the enormous transfers of property in that pargana, amounting to 29 per cent. of the whole since the last settlement, are susceptible of easy explanation.

Proprietary castes.

Some mention has already been made of the distribution of the land among the proprietary castes when dealing with the castes themselves. But it will be convenient to recapitulate the facts here. Thakurs are still predominant as landowners, heavy as their losses have been of recent years, and over 39 per cent. of the total area is in their hands. By far the largest property is that of the Raja of Awa, who owns 160 entire villages and shares in 108 villages. Another considerable property belonging to the Jadon Thakurs is the estate of Lal Umrao Singh, who resides at Pachon in Aliganj. His villages are mostly in pargana Marehra. Of the Chauhans the most influential representative is the Raja of Rajaur, who owns 42 villages in Etah-Sakit. Thakur Hanwant Ram Singh of Etah, a Kachhwaha, owns what remains of the estate of the Chauhan Raja of Etah, the bulk of which was confiscated after the Mutiny. He is well-to-do, but usually resides at Jaipur where he has other property and is known as the Raja of Lawan. The Rathors have lost ground. The Rampur family, descended

from the Rathor Rajas of Kanauj, is now powerty-stricken and owns only 4 villages, one of which is held on a quit-rent. Other branches are in Azamnagar and Sonhar, among whom Thakur Baldeo Singh of Sarauth may be mentioned as taking a keen interest in agriculture and possessing a small but improving property. There are many other branches of Thakurs ; Kathiyas in Azamnagar, Solankhis in Sirhpura, Gaurs and Bais in Nidhpur and Bilram. But none of these have large estates. Mostly they are over-grown proprietary bodies owning but two or three villages. Next to Thakurs come Musalmans with 15·9 per cent. of the whole. The largest estate is that of Chaudhri Nurullah Khan of Sahawar, until recently under the Court of Wards. The Mohanpur estate, which belongs to an Afghan family having its headquarters at Dadon in Aligarh, has also suffered from mismanagement and from the depression following on the cycle of wet seasons. The Marehra Saiyids are an old family and own a number of villages round Marehra several of which are revenue-free, being devoted to the upkeep of the tomb of Shah Barkat-ullah. The third place is taken by Brahmans with 13·2 per cent. Their possessions include most of the Soron and Barna parganas, but among them property is much subdivided. Kayasths rank fourth with 12·5 per cent. of the whole, and Banias fifth with 7·7 per cent.—more than double their holding thirty years ago. Ahirs hold 4·06 per cent. of the remainder and Kalwars 2·3 per cent. Only ·6 per cent. is now in the hands of Europeans, the greater part of this consisting of the 16 villages belonging to the Raur concern owned by the Messrs. Maxwell. The splendid estates once the property of the Gardner family have been squandered, and the elder branch now owns only a few acres round its old home. The remainder of the district, some 3 per cent., is owned by a variety of castes in fractional proportions.

The Raj of Awa.

The principal zamindar of the district, as of the province of Agra, is Surajpal Singh, the minor son of the late Raja of Awa, in the Jalesar tahsil. Besides his property in this district, on which he pays over two lakhs a year as revenue, he owns large estates in Agra, Aligarh, Mainpuri and Muttra, and his possessions are steadily increasing. The family claims to belong to the Jadon branch of the great Rajput caste, but the claim is not allowed by the

chief of Karauli. Though descent is alleged from one Sohan Pal, the adopted son of a brother of the Raja of Karauli, the actual founder of the family, and the first member of it of whose existence there is any definite record, was Thakur Bijai Singh, son of Thakur Chatturbhuj Singh, a zamindar of Nari Semari in pargana Chhata of the Muttra district. He came to Jalesar early in the 18th century as a *baid* or physician to the local governor, who in gratitude for his services presented to him the village of Misa, about two miles from Awa, which subsequently gave its name to the Awa-Misa *taluqa*. Bijai Singh, in addition to his practice as a doctor, lent money to his needy zamindar neighbours, a business which was continued by his son Bakht Singh with such success, that by the 37th year of the reign of Shah Alam the latter had acquired 53 villages. For these he was granted by General Perron, who held Jalesar as his own fief at the time, a perpetual lease at a yearly net demand of Rs. 50,000, and was further granted *nankar* villages to the value of Rs. 7,776, and 337 bighas of *sir* land in Pilkathra. At the same time Madho Rao Sindhia bestowed on him, rent-free and in perpetuity, 2,542 bighas of *sir* land in the villages of Awa, Birnagar, Punehra, Nuh, Janauli and Bara Bhundela. Under a *sanad* from the Marathas he made Awa his headquarters and laid the foundation of the present stronghold. There he maintained his position by the help of a large body of freebooting Mewatis, whom he settled about Awa, where their descendants still exist. He was in those times practically an independent chieftain, and had an equivocal reputation as a receiver of stolen property, though probably he was no worse than any of his neighbours. Bakht Singh died some time before the British conquest and was succeeded by his elder son, Hira Singh, who completed the building of the Awa fort. At the beginning of British rule he was found in possession of 57 villages. Under orders from Mr. Graham Mercer, the Governor-General's agent with Lord Lake's army, Hira Singh exerted himself to obtain supplies, and in return for his services received a *sanad* confirming him in his *taluqa* as a loyal adherent of the Government. During the compaign against Holkar he continued to supply the British army and was rewarded with the grant of some more villages and of two separate *sanads* from the Governor-General in

Council, concluding with him an *istimrari* settlement of the villages in his possession and also of the *taluqa* of Kotla in the Agra district. Hira Singh died in 1831 and was succeeded by his son Pitambar Singh, whose right to the title of Raja, said to have been granted by the Rana of Udaipur, was recognized by the British Government in 1839. Raja Pitambar Singh was a man of great ability and continued to improve and extend his property, though it was during his time that the Kotla state was restored to the family who originally owned it. He died in November 1845, leaving a will by which he had adopted as his heir his cousin Kunwar Pirthi Singh. On his death there were some disputes about the property, but the Board of Revenue by their order, dated 1st July 1846, finally recognized Kunwar Pirthi Singh as Raja under the guardianship of Kunwar Lal Pokhpal Singh, a relative of the late Raja Pitambar Singh. Pirthi Singh held the estate until his death on 31st July 1876. He was an able administrator and acquired great wealth by money-lending and speculating in indigo. During the Mutiny he was conspicuously loyal, the district magistrate reporting that "on the breaking out of the rebellion by Mr. Colvin's advice I made over the charge of the pargana of Jalesar to the Raja. He was told that the Government could give him no assistance; he was requested to show his loyalty to the Government at the time of need and to maintain its authority. He well and ably repaid the confidence reposed in him. He raised horse and foot, attacked the insurgent villagers, restored the whole of that part of the country to order, collected the revenue and remitted it to Agra. In fact, he held the country till the taking of Delhi and the arrival of our own troops enabled us to resume possession. On my return to the district he supplied me with a body of men, horse, foot and two guns, with which I was enabled to move about the district. He also raised a large portion of DeKantzow's Horse." Raja Pirthi Singh was succeeded by his minor son Chhatarpal Singh, who died in 1884, when his cousin, Baldeo Singh, was placed on the *gaddi*. Baldeo Singh however died on March 8th 1892 and was succeeded by his younger brother, Raja Balwant Singh, the late holder of the title. His management of the estates was as successful as that of his predecessors, and they are fast increasing in extent and value. The

present Raja, who inherited the title and estates in 1909, is a minor.

Thakur of Umargarh.

Another important Jadon proprietor is the Thakur of Umargarh in the Jalesar tahsil. He owns 4 villages in this district and a very small share in a village in Agra. The late chief, who died on 9th August 1907, was Thakur Nitra Pal Singh; and his step-sister was married to the Maharaja of Jaipur. His widow (by courtesy of his younger brother Jaisingh Palsingh) is now in possession. Though both are Jadons, there is no connection between the families of Awa and Umargarh, the latter claiming the better descent and having undoubtedly been much the longer established in the district. The first of the clan to come to Umargarh is said to have been one Sungipal Singh, who had five sons. To the eldest was allotted the Umargarh estate, and to the others villages were given elsewhere for their maintenance. Their descendants still recognize the headship of this branch by assembling at Umargarh every year for the Dasehra. The chief is locally known as the Raja or Rao, but the title is not officially recognized. His grandfather Tikam Singh did good service in the Mutiny, protecting Europeans and raising men to fight against the rebels.

Raja of Rajaur.

The Raja of Rajaur, the head of the Chauhan clan of Rajputs in the district, is the owner of 42 villages in Etah and pays nearly Rs. 19,000 in land revenue. Like the Rajas of Mainpuri and Partabner he claims descent from Prithiraj, the last Hindu King of Delhi, but his family records find it as difficult as theirs to fit in genealogy and chronology. There is no doubt however that the Rajaur family is of the very bluest Chauhan blood, and that the Raja has as much right as either Mainpuri or Partabner to consider himself the head of the clan. The pedigrees of the three branches are somewhat confused and conflicting, but they all agree in including the name of one Sakit or Sangat Deo, who had twenty-one sons. According to the Rajaur chronicles it was his son Dhiraraj who, accompanied by some of his brothers, first came to Etah and established himself in Bilram. Fourth in descent from him came Sakit Deo, who founded Sakit after driving out the Dor Rajputs and took Rajaur from the Brahmans. Sakit Deo was succeeded by Benipal Deo and he by Bhopal Deo, who had two sons, Yahani

Sahai and Udaicharan. The latter emigrated to Bhongaon, and his descendants became the chiefs of Mainpuri, while Yahani Sahai's four sons become Rajas of Bilram, Sakit, Malgaon and Rajaur. They were constantly at war with the Sultan of Delhi, and the family traditions assert that when in 1488 Bahlol Lodi after taking Sakit fought a battle against the Chauhans at Malgaon, he was wounded and died there. Niamat-ullah however merely says that Bahlol fell sick on his way to Delhi, in the neighbourhood of Malawi in the Sakit territory, owing to the excessive heat. In the reign of his successor the Chauhans were defeated at Bilram and Raja Medini Sahai and some of his brothers were killed. His son Bhupal Sahai fled to Sakit, but some of the clan submitted and became Musalmans. From them sprang the Thakur Musalmans still found in Bilram and its vicinity, who bear the honorific title of Chaudhri then conferred upon them, though they are often nicknamed *Adhwariyas* by their co-religionists the Pathans and Mughals. Sawant Singh the son of Bhupal Sahai attacked the army of Ibrahim Lodi, but was defeated and killed, and Sakit was handed over to a colony of Bahota Musalmans. Sawant Singh's son, Anant Singh, then took refuge with the Raja of Bhadawar; where the family remained with him until inBabar's time Chakr Sen the son of Anant Sen was recalled and invested with his old fiefs of Sakit and Rajaur. After this the lineal succession was unbroken, Chakr Sen, Chandra Sen, Bikramajit, Kalyan Sahai, Partab Sahai, Udai Sahai, Lachhmi Narain and Hari Singh following one after the other. Hari Singh rose to high rank under Aurangzeb, Farrukhsiyar and Muhammad Shah, proving himself an able and successful general, and was succeeded by his son Raj Singh, in whose time Sakit was seized by the Nawab of Farrukhabad, the Chauhans retaining only Rajaur. Raj Singh was succeeded in turn by Umrao Singh, Datta Singh, Drigpal Singh and Khushhal Singh. The last-named died in 1901 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Senwal Singh, who now holds the title which has been borne for centuries by the head of the house and has always been recognized by the British Government.

After its sack by the army of Sikandar Lodi Bilram was rebuilt where it now stands by Bilram Singh. One of his descendants Hira Singh had five sons who acquired a number of Chauha families.

villages in pargana Marehra, still held by Chauhans and known the *panch bhaya ke gaon*, or the villages of the five brothers. Another descendant was Jagat Singh, who founded Jarasmi and had two sons, one of whom settled in Jarasmi and seven neighbouring villages, still called the *Athgaon Chauhanan* though the proprietary rights of the family are now very small indeed. From the younger son Partab Singh were descended the Rajas of Etah who on installation always received the *tika* or forehead mark from the hands of the representative of the Jarasmi family. Sangram Singh the founder of the town of Etah was forcibly converted to Islam under the name of Sangi Khan, and the same ill fortune befell his great-grandson Prithi Singh, both being compelled in consequence to abandon the *gaddi*. Partly as the result of these apostasies, and partly because of their descent from a younger branch of the house, the Rajas of Etah never took rank with those of Rajaur. Damar Singh, who was Raja in 1857, sided with the mutineers and his estates were confiscated, only eleven villages, the dowry of his wife, remaining to the family. The widow adopted her daughter's son Prithiraj as her heir, and his cousin Hanwant Ram Singh is the present head of the family. He resides at Lawan in the Jaipur state, where he possesses landed property. By inheritance and otherwise his possessions in Etah have since increased to 13 entire villages and shares in 7 more, and he now pays Rs. 15,288 land revenue in Etah and Rs. 1,528 in Mainpuri.

Rani of Rampur.

The Rampur family also trace their descent from one of the most ancient princely houses of Northern India. The last Raja, whose widow Rani Kishan Kunwar now holds the title, claimed to be thirty-ninth in descent from Jai Chand, the last Rathor Raja of Kanauj, and representative of the dynasty that commenced with Chandra Deva in 1050 A.D. Jai Chand fell in battle against Muhammad Ghori in 1191 A.D., leaving two sons Bardar and Jaipal. The Rampur family springs from the second son and is recognized as the senior branch of the Rathor clan of Rajputs in the United Provinces. Parjan Pal, the seventh in descent from Jaipal, left Kanauj and established himself at Khor in Farrukhabad, where the family remained for several generations in possession of 1,600 villages. Local tradition asserts that Jai Singh Deo, the sixteenth in descent from Jaipal, was driven out

of Khor by Sultan Altamash, who built on the site a new town which he called Shamsabad. Altamash however died in 1236 A.D. and, according to the *Tarikh-i-Mubarik Shahi*, the place was still named Khur and occupied by the infidels in 1414 A.D.: and it would seem that it was not until the middle of the fifteenth century that the Rathors were finally expelled from Khor, when Raja Karan Singh went to Budaun and established himself at Usehat. His grandson Raja Pratap Rudra received from the Nawab of Farrukhabad, whom he had supported against the Rohillas, a grant of 27 villages in the neighbourhood of Bilramgarh, now called Bilsarh, in pargana Azamnagar. Of these only three are now left in possession of the family, though the ruins of Bilsarh still attest its former splendour. The headquarters of the family were subsequently removed to Rampur by Raja Ram Sahai. At the time of the cession in 1801 Raja Newal Singh was still in possession of the original 27 villages, but in the course of the earlier settlements, owing to the neglect or bad management of the Raja and his want of acquaintance with the new revenue system introduced by the British, his proprietary rights in all the villages in Etah except three—Rampur Pahra, Sikandarpur Subhana and Chauki Atanpur—were either not asserted, or ignored or disallowed. Besides the above mentioned villages the Raja owned three others in the Mainpuri district. Rampur Pahra is held at a quit-rent of Rs. 733 in consideration of the ancient descent and former greatness of the family and the net income of the estate is about Rs. 8,000. Owing to the indebtedness of the late Raja Ramchandra Singh the management of the property was at his own request undertaken for some time by the court of wards. He died on the 20th May 1883 and was succeeded by his widow the present Rani.

Other Rathors.

Besides the Rampur family two other branches of Rathors are settled in the district, one of pure lineage descended from Lakhmi Sen, a cadet of the Khimsipur Rao house of Shamsabad, and now living in pargana Azamnagar, the other, known as the Dhir Sah *sakha*, descended from Dhir Sah. The head of this branch is Thakur Baldeo Singh of Sarauth in the south of Azamnagar, and they own land both in that pargana and in Sonhar.

Kayasths of Kasganj.

The leading Kayasth family is that of the late Raja Dilsukh Rai, a Kayasth of the Kulsarisht *got*, but of obscure origin. The original home of the family was Bilram, where some of its members still reside. Dilsukh Rai entered Colonel Gardner's service as a land-agent and remained there until the death of Mr. W. James Gardner. He then invested his savings in the manufacture of indigo and progressed so well as to be able to buy up a number of villages. In 1857 he rendered all the aid in his power to the British authorities and was rewarded with a *khilat* of Rs. 5,000 and estates paying a revenue of Rs. 15,000 a year, with the title of Raja Bahadur. He was also made an honorary magistrate and was one of the wealthiest landowners in the district. He lived and died at Etah, and was succeeded in both the title and magistracy by Raja Shankar Singh, who took up his residence at Kasganj, where he built the handsome palace which is now the seat of the family. He died in 1891 and left two sons, Kunwar Sheoraj Singh and Rao Maharaj Singh, who succeeded to the estate but not to the title or the honorary magistracy. The estate is now heavily embarrassed, owing principally to the great extravagance of the late Raja but partly to the want of business capacity of the two brothers.

Saiyids of Marehra.

The Saiyids of Marehra belong to the same family as those of Bilgram in Oudh and Barha in the Muzaffarnagar district. Their traditional account of their arrival in India is that their family, which was originally settled at Daramwat near Madina, removed to Wasit near Baghdad, whence S. Abul Farah emigrated with his four sons to Ghazni. The three eldest came down into India and were given estates by the emperor. The date is not specified. One of them was S. Abul Faraz, and a descendant of his named S. Muhammad Ghaus in 614 *hijri* (1218 A. D.) with the assistance of some Musalman troops, expelled Raja Sri from Bilgram and settled there. S. Abdul Jalil, a descendant of the Bilgram Saiyids, came to Marehra in 1017 *hijri* (1608 A. D.) and was there given some land for a house by the local *qanungo*, who became his disciple. He is said to have died there in 1661 A. D., and his tomb is known as that of the Mir Sahib and is a place of pious resort. His

grandson, Shah Barkat-ullah, built the Premnagar Sarai in 1722 A. D. and was buried there in 1746, a handsome tomb being built over his grave by Shujaat Khan, an officer in the service of Nawab Muhammad Khan Bangash of Farrukhabad. The shrine is endowed with a grant of 12 villages revenue-free to provide for its maintenance, and a pension of Rs. 434-4-0 per annum is paid by the Government to the *sajjadah nishin* of the *dargah*. Shah Barkat-ullah had two sons, whose descendants are known as the *bara sarkar* or elder branch, and the *chota sarkar*, or junior branch of the family. Since 1852 the affairs of the *dargah* have been managed by a committee composed of three members, *viz.* the heads of the two branches and an additional member or *chaudhri* (at present Muhammad Niamat Ilahi). This arrangement was made by the Collector of the district to whom are submitted half-yearly accounts of the management of the *dargah*. The present head of the elder branch is S. Shah Mahdi Hasan who is *sajjadah nishin* of the *dargah*. The younger branch is represented by S. Ali Ahsan.

Other Musalman families.

Other Musalman families are the Pathans of Sarai Aghat descended from Bhai Khan Toya of the Khail Jahad tribe who came in the time of Shahjahan from Kabul; the Pathans of Kadirganj, owning that village and several in its neighbourhood, and now represented by Gul Sher Khan and Ali Sher Khan; and the Pathans of Sahawar, an influential family owning estates worth some Rs. 26,000 a year. Their present head is Chaudhri Nurullah Khan.

The Gardner family.

Until recent times the largest landholders in the district were the Gardner family, whose founder was Colonel Gardner, a cadet of a noble family who ran away from home and entered the Maratha service, in which he greatly distinguished and enriched himself. During the war with Nepal in 1815, when the incompetence of our generals was bringing disgrace on the British name, Colonel Gardner was offered command of the force sent into Kumaun. In this expedition he was completely successful, reducing Almora, and in conjunction with his brother the Hon. E. Gardner putting an end to the war. He married a daughter of the royal family of Cutch, and establishing himself

at Chhaoni in the Etah district, lived in princely splendour. By gift or purchase, or as farmer, Colonel Gardner held a large portion of Etah. He was succeeded by his son James Valentine Gardner, who ran away with Malika Kamarchera Banu Begum, granddaughter of Shah Alam Emperor of Delhi, whom he subsequently married. He died at Chhaoni on the 14th June 1845 and was buried there beside his father. He left five sons—Sulaiman Shikoh, commonly known as Muna Sahib; James, *alias* Hinga Sahib; William Linnaeus; Sikandar Shikoh, and Jahangir Samuel. E. F. Gardner, son of Sulaiman Shikoh, is still alive at Chhaoni, where the only relics of a splendid patrimony are a few acres immediately surrounding the house and mausoleum. Mention may here be made of the branch of the family which claims the title of Lord Gardner. The first Baron, Alan Lord Gardner of Uttoxeter (created 1806), was the younger brother of Colonel Gardner's father. Neither he nor the second and third barons had anything to do with India. On the death however of the third baron without issue the title was claimed by one Alan Hyde, the son of Stewart William Gardner (grandson of the first baron) by Hirmozu or Jane, a grand-daughter of Colonel Gardner. Stewart William Gardner had some estates at Manota near Kasganj, but this property also was soon lost, and Alan Hyde, who in 1883 claimed the title of fourth Baron, lived practically in the Kasganj bazar where he made a scanty living by painting *ekkas*. He also married into Colonel Gardner's family, taking to wife Akhtar Zaman Majli Begam or Jane, the daughter of one of Colonel Gardner's grand-daughters and of M. Anjam Shikoh, a prince of the house of Delhi. On the death of Alan Hyde a few years ago his son Alan Legge, who is now a clerk in the United Provinces government secretariat, claims to have succeeded to the title.

There is yet a third branch of the family in the district, represented by Mr. Arthur Gardner, who resides at Fatehpur near Soron and owns 6 entire villages and shares in 3 more, paying a total land revenue of Rs. 3,827-6-0.

Cultivating tenures.

The cultivating tenures are the ordinary ones prevailing throughout the Duab. The returns for 1907 show that of the total 772,272 acres included in holdings 90,042 acres or 11·6

per cent. were cultivated by proprietors as their *sir* or *khud-kasht*; 9,222 acres, or 1·19 per cent. were held rent-free; 22,082 acres or 2·8 per cent. were held by ex-proprietors; 394,366 acres, or 51·6 per cent., by occupancy tenants; and 256,560 acres or 33·2 per cent. by tenants-at-will. The northern and southern portions of the district differ considerably in the proportions of land held by proprietors for their own cultivation. In Kasganj the percentage is 9·08, in Aliganj 16·6, while in Jalesar it is only 7·2 and in Etah sinks to 5·5. This difference is explained by the fact that in the north and east there are far more co-parcenary communities than in the south; and that in many villages, especially in Aliganj, subdivision of property has been carried to such lengths that each proprietor has barely enough land for his own support and has none to let to tenants. A considerable difference is also observable on the two sides of the Kali Nadi in the proportions of the areas held by occupancy and non-occupancy tenants. In the north the occupancy tenant holds 60 per cent. of the tenant's area, and 75 per cent. in the south. At the previous settlement of 1873 the positions were reversed, 72 per cent. of the northern area being held in occupancy tenure, and only 68 per cent. of the south. The decline in the north is due to the period of depression between 1880 and 1890, when a considerable number of tenants were driven to abandon their holdings altogether, while others gave up all but the best fields. That it is not due to any action on the part of the zamindars is shown by the rise in the south, where the depression was not felt. The relations between landlord and tenant throughout the district are generally good, and the settlement officer mentions that several landlords, among them the Raja of Awa, expressed a preference for occupancy tenants, holding that the greater security in realization more than compensated for the lower run of the rents and the slight loss of influence.

Cultivating castes.

At the recent settlement of 1904-05 no return of cultivators by castes was prepared, so that exact figures are not available. According to the previous settlement of 1873 however Brahmans, Thakurs, Kachhis, Lodhas and Ahirs, in almost equal numbers, between them made up 65 per cent. of the cultivators of the district, and there has probably not been much change since

that time. Of the Thakurs, both Chauhans and Rathors still refuse, as a general rule, to handle the plough themselves, though most of the other clans cultivate themselves, and their fields are up to the average. Brahmans are the worst cultivators and their land generally exhibits very inferior cultivation. The Lodhas form the back-bone of all the best villages and are excellent cultivators in a broad style, showing a preference for sugar, wheat and maize. They are most numerous in Bilram, Sahawar, Azamnagar, Marehra and Etah-Sakit. Kachhis, or, as they are usually called in this district Muraos, are even better cultivators than Lodhas, but as already stated their special line is the intense cultivation of a small area, and their fields are to found in the immediate neighbourhood of the inhabited site. Ahirs rank low in the cultivating scale and are only superior to Brahmans.

Rents.

Rents are generally paid in cash, and in 1907 only 6,523 acres were returned as held on grain rents. Of this amount practically the whole is to be found in the northern portion of the district, the Kasganj tahsil accounting for over 59 per cent. of it, while in Etah only 635 acres are held on this rental and none in Jalesar. Grain rents never appear to have been at all prevalent in Jalesar, but in the other three tahsils they accounted for 24,727 acres at the settlement of 1873. This tendency to substitute payment in cash for payment in kind is a general one, and the only grain-rented lands now left are the very precarious or very inferior patches such as those on the margins of *jhils*, where cultivation is spasmodic and uncertain, and *batai* or proportionate division of the crop actually realized is the only practicable system. The cash rents are generally paid in the lump on an entire holding without any distribution among the different fields of which that holding is composed, the only part of the district where field rents are found being the three parganas lying along the Ganges. There has been a very remarkable rise in rents during the last thirty years, and this rise has varied to an extraordinary extent in different parts of the district. For instance, while competition rents during this period have only risen 5 per cent. in pargana Faizpur Badaria they have increased by 100 per cent. in pargana Etah. And again the margin between the present competition and occupancy rates varies

from 5 per cent. to 40 per cent. With extremes so wide apart as this, figures relating to the district as a whole must inevitably be fallacious. Moreover transfers of area from non-occupancy to occupancy holding and *vice versâ*, or changes from grain to cash rents, have in some cases obscured the true rise, while in others they have added an artificial increment. The result is that figures dealing with the relative rise in occupancy and in competition rents for the district as a whole are useless and indeed actually misleading. To effect a fair comparison it is necessary to eliminate the disturbing factor caused by these fluctuations in area, which can only be done by comparing the all-round rate for both classes of tenants. At the 1873 settlement that rate was Rs. 2·96 per acre. The corresponding figure for the 1905 settlement is Rs. 3·99. The rise is thus 35 per cent. The rental incidence varies greatly in the different tahsils, the lowest occurring, as was to be expected, in Aliganj, and the highest in Jalesar. Aliganj also presents the remarkable feature of an occupancy incidence in excess of the non-occupancy, the respective figures being Rs. 2·75 and Rs. 2·41 per acre. This is accounted for by the fact that all the best land is in the hands of the privileged tenants, and this is no new development, as at the 1873 settlement the occupancy incidence was Rs. 2·06 per acre compared with Re. 1·83 for non-occupancy land. In Jalesar the average rate of the competition rents is as high as Rs. 7·25, while the occupancy rate is Rs. 4·71. Caste has no direct influence on rents in this district. It is true that Kachhis pay rents much above the average. But that is because they confine their energies to close garden cultivation in the best soils. It is on the quality of the soil and its position in regard to the village and to facilities for irrigation that the rent-rates in each pargana depend. In pargana Jalesar for example the rate per acre of the best irrigated *gauhan*, the rich belt of soil immediately surrounding the village, is Rs. 15-12-6, whereas the poorest unirrigated *bhur* pays only Re. 1-5-1. In Azamnagar the corresponding figures are Rs. 10-8-6 and Re. 0-15-9. There is in the second pargana a similar gradation of rates based on local differences of soil and irrigation, but the rates are lower all round owing to the comparative precariousness of the pargana.

Condition of the people.

Ample material has been given in the preceding pages to illustrate the general condition of the people in the Etah district, and it may be safely asserted that few districts have been more greatly benefited by the British administration. The network of canals which has now been spread over almost every pargana has rendered the tract, which has formerly one of the first to suffer in a year of drought, secure even in such seasons as 1897 and 1908; and there is every reason to believe that the elaborate systems of deep drains which now intersect the district in almost all directions will be no less efficacious to preserve it from any repetition of the calamities which afflicted it in the eighties. It will not be difficult to appreciate what such security means to a population nearly seventy per cent. of whom are directly and entirely dependent on agriculture for their living.

Equally remarkable is the increased protection now afforded to both life and property. At every period of its history known to us the tract of country now comprised in the Etah district has been notorious for the criminal propensities of its inhabitants, and continual reference is made by the historians to the numbers and daring of the robber bands by which it was infested. At the cession the state of affairs was no better. Most of the villages were fortified, partly as a defence against the dacoits and bandits who swarmed in the jungles, and partly to enable the inhabitants to refuse payment of any demand for their lawful revenue which might be unsupported by an armed force. A century of British rule has firmly established law and order all over the district; and though crimes of violence are still too common their number is comparatively insignificant, and the security of both person and property is now universal and complete. In point of material comfort and well-being the district probably stands about midway between those of the upper Duab and those further east. While one observer fresh from Meerut was struck with the comparative poverty of the Etah cultivators, to another they appeared "in better circumstances, finer men, better clothed and better fed than they are in Banda, Basti or Mirzapur." The standard of comfort is not a high one, but its requirements are, as a rule, amply fulfilled. The wages of labourers have nearly

doubled in the last fifteen years, and though this rise must be discounted by the accompanying rise in the prices of food-stuffs, the facts that it has never been thought worth while even to start an emigration agency in this district, and that in two successive famines no test-work has ever filled, are conclusive proofs of the welfare of the labouring classes. Atenantry 65 per cent. of whose members own occupancy rights in the land is obviously in an unusually strong and prosperous condition. The class which is worst off is that of the smaller proprietors, particularly the Thakur coparcenary communities. The enormous increase in their numbers and their own improvident and thriftless habits have both contributed to their impoverishment. Their holdings have been subdivided until the bare margin of subsistence has been reached in the case of the smaller sharers, and as they have no reserve to fall back upon a few bad seasons make the money-lender and mortgage inevitable. And then interest rapidly accumulates. As the native proverb has it: *ek aur ek igyarah*—1 and 1 make 11. So that sale is almost invariably the end of the transaction. With this exception the agricultural community is probably better off than at any previous period, protected as it now is both from flood and famine, and provided by the railway with that outlet for its produce which was formerly wanting.

CHAPTER IV.

Administration and Revenue.

District staff.

The district of Etah is in the charge of a Magistrate and Collector, who is subordinate to the Commissioner of Agra. The sanctioned magisterial staff, in addition to the district officer, consists of four officers with full powers, one of whom should be a justice of the peace, and one officer with second-class powers. At the present time the staff consists of five deputy collectors with first class powers, one of whom is in charge of the treasury, while the others have each charge of the criminal and revenue work of one tahsil. There are four tahsildars and a bench of honorary magistrates sits at Marehra. Criminal appeals lie to the additional judge of Aligarh who holds criminal sessions periodically at Etah. The munsif of Etah exercises civil jurisdiction over the Etah and Aliganj tahsils, and the munsifs of Kasganj and Jalesar over those tahsils, all civil appeals being filed in the court of the judge of Aligarh. The remaining official staff consists of the superintendent of police, the civil surgeon and an assistant surgeon in charge of the sadar hospital, the district surveyor, a canal magistrate and an assistant opium agent.

Formation of the district.

The territory now included in the Etah district forms part of that ceded to the British by the Nawab of Oudh in 1801-02. It was at that time distributed among the districts of Etawah, Farrukhabad, Aligarh, Moradabad and Muttra. But the distances from headquarters were so great that as early as 1811 it was found necessary to post a European officer at Patiali, with criminal jurisdiction over the surrounding parganas. In 1816 the headquarters of the subdivision were removed from Patiali to Sirhpura and were placed under the charge of Mr. Calvert, at that time the assistant secretary to the Board of Commissioners. During the same year parganas Bilram, Faizpur Badaria, Soron and half of Marehra were transferred from

Etawah to Aliganj; whilst Etah-Sakit, Sahawar and the rest of Marehra remained in Etawah. In 1824 Etawah was distributed among the collectorate of Mainpuri and the three sub-collectorates of Etawah, Bela and Sirhpura, about half the present district falling to the last subdivision. The parganas of Aligarh-Bilram, Faizpur, Soron and half Marehra were formed into one tahsil, known as the Kasganj tahsil, and were transferred to the new district of Sahaswan, now known as Budaun. Mr. Herbert was appointed deputy collector of Sirhpura, and in addition to the special magisterial powers which he possessed for the suppression of dacoity and highway robberies was also invested with the revenue jurisdiction, and received charge of parganas Sirhpura and Sahawar from Mr. Swetenham, and of Etah-Sakit and half Marehra from the collector of Etawah. He made Patiali his headuarters. In 1827 the parganas of Bilram, Faizpur, Soron and half Marehra were transferred from Sahaswan (Budaun) to Sirhpura, and during the same year the headquarters were removed to Fatehgarh. In 1828 the special magisterial powers were withdrawn, but the revenue jurisdiction remained separate until 1837, when Patiali was attached to the Azamnagar tahsil in the Farrukhabad district, the Sahaswan parganas were restored to the district, and the Etawah parganas were given to Mainpuri. The settlement under Regulation IX of 1833 for Sonhar, Azamnagar, Patiali and Barna was made by Mr. Robinson in the Farrukhabad district; for Faizpur Badaria, Bilram, Soron, Aulai and Nidhpur by Mr. Timins in the Budaun district; for Sirhpura, Etah-Sakit and Sahawar-Karsana by Mr. Edmonstone in the Mainpuri district; and for Marehra and Pachlana by Mr. Rose in the Aligarh district. When the special officer was withdrawn the Ahirs and Aheriyas at once recommenced their old habits of plunder and armed resistance, and dacoities organised by one Kanhsuya, an Ahir from the Jumna ravines in the Mainpuri district, became so frequent that it was again found necessary to make special arrangements for the preservation of the public peace in the tract. The southern and central parganas were still covered with *dhak* jungle and studded with mud forts surrounded by moats and protected by fences of bamboo. The landholders were a turbulent

and fearless race, who still preserved recollections of the days when it was considered a mark of disrespect to call for the revenue without some show of force accompanying the demand.

Accordingly a separate charge was formed on the 26th April 1845, to which Mr. Wynyard was appointed as deputy collector and joint magistrate. The subdivision now comprised tahsil Azamnagar, containing parganas Barna, Azamnagar and Patiali, from the Farrukhabad district; tahsil Sakit, including parganas Sakit, Sirhpura, Sahawar-Karsana, Etah and Sonhar, from the Mainpuri district; and tahsil Kasganj, comprising parganas Bilram, Soron, Faizpur Badaria, Aulai and Nidhpur from Budaun. In 1847 the Deputy Collector was made subordinate to the Collectors of the several districts from which the parganas placed under his care had been taken, to the extent that the Patiali revenue accounts had to be sent up through these Collectors. From 1850 onwards the Deputy Collector again dealt directly with the Commissioner. Towards the end of 1852, when Mr. F. O. Mayne was Deputy Collector and Joint Magistrate, the headquarters were transferred from Patiali to Etah on the Grand Trunk Road, and from that date the district has borne the name of Etah. In 1856 parganas Marehra and Pachlana were received from Aligarh. In 1879 the pargana of Jalesar, which had until 1874 formed part of the Muttra district, was transferred to Etah from the Agra district and constituted a separate tahsil. Since that date there have been no changes of any consequence in the district boundaries.

Fiscal history.

The numerous changes described in the preceding paragraph render it very difficult to give any detailed account of the earlier settlements of the parganas which now make up the Etah district, scattered as they were over four different districts, and only a summary sketch can be attempted. Fortunately the whole tract was settled on similar principles and the various settlements were carried on at much the same time. In every case there were three regular settlements prior to Regulation IX of 1833. The revenue demand can be obtained from these early settlements with approximate accuracy by summation of the figures given for each pargana in the old settlement reports, but it is impossible to give the figures for

Jalesar, as at the time of the transfer of that pargana a large number of villages were left with the Agra district. Excluding Jalesar, the revenue assessed on the remainder of the district was Rs. 6,90,510 at the first settlement, Rs. 6,89,159 at the second and Rs. 7,40,845 at the third. In the settlement made under Regulation IX of 1833 parganas Sirhpura, Sahawar-Karsana, Sakit and Etah were settled in 1840 by Mr. (afterwards Sir George) Edmonstone in the Mainpuri district. The drought of 1837-38 fell with peculiar force on the parganas north of the Kali Nadi, and they had not recovered from it when the drought of 1842-43 commenced. Mr. Edmonstone's report gives a very unattractive picture of the tract: a poor sandy soil, indebted landholders, scanty irrigation and bad seasons all combined to render a reduction of the demand necessary in Sirhpura, while a small increase was taken in the other parganas, the total demand being enhanced from Rs. 2,48,549 to Rs. 2,51,597. Parganas Marehra and Pachlana were settled by Mr. Rose in the Aligarh district in 1839. Here also the famine had been felt, and immediate remissions were granted in Marehra, amounting to Rs. 12,554, as well as a progressive revenue. When the assessment reached its maximum it was calculated to give an increase of Rs. 10,901, and it actually stood at Rs. 1,17,330 when the next settlement began. In Pachlana no greater increase than Rs. 704 was attempted; for, as was remarked by Mr. Rose, "an increase of assessment in these *bhur* or unirrigated estates will always be attended by great risks, for the labour of bringing the crops to maturity is so great, and a remunerating return so uncertain, that nothing but the lowest rent-rates will induce the cultivators to remain in their villages, and particularly now, when the recent depopulation of the country has thrown so much good land out of cultivation." The new assessment was Rs. 18,978, of which Rs. 102 were subsequently remitted on account of land taken up for a public purpose. Parganas Sonhar, Azamnagar, Patiali and Barna were settled by Mr. Robinson in the Farrukhabad district in 1837, and of them also a very unfavourable account is given. The landholders and cultivators were turbulent, idle and extravagant, the soil was poor and sandy, and the population scattered and inadequate; but as

the previous assessments were exceedingly light and lenient they were left practically unchanged. Indeed in reviewing the settlements the Commissioner remarked that "moderation has been the prevailing feature in these settlements, and where the assessment has been raised, the enhancement has prudently fallen short of the sum which might apparently have been demanded." The new assessment amounted to Rs. 1,72,152 for the four parganas. The parganas of Soron, Bilram, Aulai, Faizpur Badaria and Nidhpur were assessed by Mr. Timins in the Budaun district, and here also the assessments were apparently light and easy to meet, the total demand amounting to Rs. 1,91,420. The new demand for the whole district, excluding the Jalesar tahsil, was then Rs. 7,51,480—an increase of only Rs. 10,635 on the previous revenue. But nevertheless the settlement broke down during the famine of 1842-44, and the revision of the assessment was undertaken in the latter year by Mr. Wynyard for the Farrukhabad parganas and by Mr. Cocks for the remainder of the district. A process similar to a regular settlement was gone through, but little except the results has been recorded. There are no materials from which to form a judgment of the necessity for the revision, nor do the grounds for that proceeding appear from its records. It may however be set down as ascertained, that except in the cases of a few scattered villages the assessments were not unreasonably severe, and that the break-down of the settlements was due, not so much to their intrinsic stringency as to the series of unfavourable seasons through which the district at that time passed. The result of the reductions made by Mr. Cocks and Mr. Wynyard was to reduce the demand over the whole district, exclusive of Jalesar, to Rs. 7,32,461.

Settlement of 1873.

Though the next settlement was made for the district as a whole, with the exception of the Jalesar tahsil, then still attached to the Muttra district, it was described by the Government as exhibiting "less uniformity of design and more varying systems of work than that of any other district." The operations extended over 12 years and were carried out in a piecemeal fashion by four different officers. Parganas Bilram, Patiali and Barna were assessed by Mr. (now Sir Charles) Crosthwaite, pargana

Barna by Mr. J. S. Porter on rates worked out by Mr. Crosthwaite, parganas Marehra, Pachlana, Soron, Faizpur, Aulai and Nidhpur by Mr. Porter, and parganas Etah, Sahawar, Sirhpura and Azamnagar by Mr. Ridsdale. Pargana Jalesar was assessed by Mr. McConaghey with the Muttra district. The methods employed by these various officers differed widely from one another. Mr. Crosthwaite worked out soil-rates by careful and elaborate methods, and his assessments were moderate. He alone of all the officers who dealt with the district seems to have realized to its full extent the extreme capriciousness of the sandy soils of the northern tract. Mr. Porter does not describe how he arrived at his rates. He worked on very broad lines with the result that his assessments, while fair for the average villages, were unsuitable to those at either end of the scale. On the whole his assessments were full. Mr. Ridsdale took a much more optimistic view of the capacities of the district than either of his predecessors. He anticipated future improvement to what has proved an unwarranted extent, and there can be no doubt that his assessments were severe. Mr. McConaghey's assessments were full and pressed heavily on many of the poorer villages. The result of the revision was a large enhancement, the actual revenue for collection becoming Rs. 12,07,486 instead of Rs. 9,50,124—an increase of 27 per cent.

It was very soon apparent that the assessments of Azamnagar were too severe, and in 1876 Mr. Butt was deputed to revise the settlement of that pargana. His operations resulted in a reduction of Rs. 8,745: but even after this reduction the revenue was still a full one. It remained however unchanged except for minor alterations until 1893, when the depression caused by waterlogging necessitated revisional operations. These were commenced in 1890 by Mr. Guthrie and completed after his death by Mr. Ferard, and resulted in a reduction of revenue amounting to Rs. 57,187, which was sanctioned for the remaining term of settlement. Outstanding arrears amounting to Rs. 1,45,991, exclusive of rates and cesses, were also remitted. By these and other minor alterations the demand had been reduced at the expiry of the settlement to Rs. 11,13,130

exclusive of nominal demands on revenue-free mahals and plots which amounted to Rs. 22,654.

Present settlement.

The next settlement was preceded by a survey, which began in October 1899 and was completed in November 1902, the whole district being cadastrally surveyed with the exception of pargana Jalesar where map correction only was done. Attestation of the records was started in 1901 by two deputy collectors, and in October the settlement officer, the late Mr. H. O. W. Robarts, began inspection. The first preliminary to assessment was a classification of the soils. In this local distinctions were adhered to as closely as possible, only those minor ones being ignored which were not reflected in the rent-rates. The most highly rated soil was the rich and well manured belt immediately surrounding the village site, known throughout the district as *gauhan*. In the western parganas a second zone outside this, called the *manjha*, is recognized. Elsewhere the *gauhan* was sub-divided into two grades. For the outlying tracts the natural division into *matyar* or clay, *dumat* or loam, and *bhur* or sand, was adopted, the variety of rich loam found in the Ganges *khadir* and known as *tarai* being separately distinguished. All soils were further classified as irrigable and unirrigable, the test being actual irrigation at any time during the last three normal years. Each pargana was divided for assessment purposes into circles defined upon a topographical basis and consisting of villages exhibiting the same natural characteristics of soil and situation. The next step was the selection of standard rates for the various soils of each circle. Though rents in this district are usually paid in the lump on holdings of mixed soils, yet in many parganas the holdings, owing to their small size, frequently consist of only one soil. In such cases numerous rates were immediately available, and in some parganas these alone gave sufficient data for the selection of the required rates. In most however it was found necessary to supplement them by an analysis of the lump-rented *khatas*, which were split up into their component parts by means of soil ratios derived from the single soil rates and from the traditional rates quoted in the village and noted at inspection. In order to eliminate obsolete rents and rents

which had not stood the test of time, the holdings were classified according to length of tenure. Both the recent high competition rents and those of the few tenants who had held since the last settlement without enhancement were rejected, the first as too high, and the second as too low. It was among tenants who had held since last settlement, and whose rents had been enhanced, and among tenants who had held for over 20 years that suitable rates were found. The standard rental ultimately arrived at for the whole district was 21 per cent. below the recorded rental of tenants-at-will and 4 per cent. above that of occupancy tenants. The total recorded cash rental was Rs. 24,84,919 and the valuation of the cash-rented area at standard rates Rs. 23,71,892, or 4·55 per cent. less. But this cash rental required various adjustments before assessment, both as regarded the area assessed and the tenants of the occupancy and non-occupancy rentals.

In view of the extreme fluctuations in cultivation that had taken place the question of area was of primary importance. At the time of settlement the holdings area was 738,951 acres of which 33,084 acres were uncultivated. But the exclusion merely of the uncultivated portion would have been an entirely inadequate allowance, for the minimum cultivation during the period of depression was 548,348 acres, and even for the twelve years prior to survey the average cultivation was only 604,769 acres. Each village had of course to be treated on its merits. Special attention was paid at the time of inspection to the areas which had suffered in the past: the average figures were observed and on a consideration of these and of the probable improvement due to drainage or irrigation an estimate was made of what might be regarded as the normal area in future. In the result the area accepted for assessment was 632,977 acres, which is 84,629 acres, or 16 per cent., above the minimum cultivated area and 5 per cent. above the 12 years' average. The excess was believed to be justified by the improvements effected in the district drainage which, it may be hoped, will prevent a recurrence of extreme deterioration. *Area assessed.*

The occupancy rental was generally accepted as adequate, and the estimated additions on account of enhancement *Occupancy rentals.*

were comparatively small, amounting to Rs. 90,657, or a little more than 5 per cent. of the recorded rental. On the other hand though the occupancy area, the inferior portions having been relinquished during the period of depression, was comparatively stable, deductions amounting to Rs. 85,876 or 5 per cent. on the gross enhanced rentals had to be made to exclude the precarious area, and Rs. 12,401 were taken off to allow for occupancy rentals which had been enhanced to an excessive degree. In the result the accepted was slightly below the recorded occupancy rental.

Non-occupancy rental.

In the case of non-occupancy tenants inadequate or fraudulent rentals were found to be very few, and the additions made on this account were only Rs. 19,083, or 2 per cent. of the recorded rental. The deductions on the other hand were very large. Rents were in many cases very high, and they had been increased at the time of attestation: in Etah for instance verification added 20 per cent. to the non-occupancy rental and in Bilram 16 per cent. The explanation given by the settlement officer is that at the former revision the assessments were based on an estimate of a prospective rise in rents which the landlords were unable—at least immediately—to obtain. For some years therefore they lost money, and they determined on this occasion to secure themselves against any possible enhancement of the revenue by forcing up rents to their highest pitch. Such rents could not of course be accepted, and the settlement officer had to make deductions of 9 per cent. on account of abnormally high rentals. Another 10 per cent. came off to allow for precarious areas, and the total deductions were no less than Rs. 1,49,042 from a recorded non-occupancy rental of Rs. 8,57,635.

The new revenue.

Including Rs. 5,370 for *sayar* the gross assets were Rs. 26,94,567. Allowances for improvements were made at the rate of 10 per cent. on the estimated cost of the new masonry wells built; they amounted to Rs. 23,393. An allowance amounting to Rs. 32,538 was also made on *sir*, excluding sublet *sir* and that belonging to well-to-do non-resident landlords, and in some cases on *khudkasht*. The net assets were thus Rs. 26,38,636. In consideration of the numerous bodies of small proprietors the

percentage assessed was 47·9 and the revenue was fixed at Rs. 12,64,437, this sum including the nominal revenue on revenue-free mahals. The revenue for collection is now Rs. 12,36,472, which is Rs. 94,952 above the expiring revenue *plus* owner's rate, and differs by only a few hundred rupees from the revenue assessed at the previous settlement with the same additions. The redistribution effected of the demand is however considerable. It has been increased 2·15 per cent. in Jalesar and 7·8 per cent. in Etah, while in Aliganj there has been a decrease of 11·49 per cent. In the Kasganj tahsil as a whole there has been a decrease of 1·38 per cent.: but in the precarious portions of this pargana the decrease has been as great as in Aliganj. There is also a great difference in the incidence per acre of the new revenue between the stable south and the precarious north of the district. While for the district as a whole the incidence is as low as Re. 1·78, in Jalesar it is Rs. 3·08, in Etah Rs. 2·31, in Kasganj Re. 1·42, and in Aliganj Re. 1·14, the average for the southern section being Rs. 2·58 and for the northern only Re. 1·29.

Police circles.

In 1876 the Etah district contained 8 first-class police stations—at Etah, Aliganj, Patiali, Kasganj, Soron, Sirhpura, Marehra and Sakit; six second-class stations at Dhumri, Malawan, Nidhauli, Kadirganj, Sahawar and Amanpur; and eight outposts at Sarai Aghat, Mohanpur, Manpur, Nagaria, Basundra, Pilua, Sindhauli and Dharauli, while mounted constables were posted at Aspur and Bhadwas. On the transfer of the Jalesar tahsil to Etah in 1879 the three thanas of Jalesar, Awah and Umargarh were added to the district, but the existing arrangement was left undisturbed till 1889, when all the circles were redistributed. The Dhumri headquarters was removed to Jaithra, the outposts were all abolished with the exception of Bhadwas and the new stations were classified as of the first, second and third class. In the first class were included Etah, Sakit, Aliganj, Patiali, Soron, Kasganj, Marehra and Jalesar; in the second Jaithra, Sahawar, Sirhpura, Nidhauli and Kadirganj; and in the third Amanpur, Awah, Umargarh and Malawan. There were thus 17 circles with an average area of 102 square miles and an average population of 50,820 persons, but actually varying in area from 156 square miles in the case of Aliganj to 57 square miles in that of Umargarh,

while the population ranged from 83,373 in the Etah circle to 22,566 in Umargarh. As they stood until recently the circles did not coincide with the revenue subdivisions and with the exception of Jalesar none of the tahsils were self-contained in respect of their police force. The re-allocation of the police circles has just been carried out anew, and under the new scheme the outpost at Bhadwas has been moved to Nidhauli and the four stations of Umargarh, Amanpur, Malawan and Nidhauli have been done away with. The eight first-class stations are left, as are the four second-class stations of Jaithra, Sahawar, Sirhpura and Kadirganj : but of the third class only that at Awa remains. Of the new circles the largest is that of Etah with 194 square miles, and the smallest Sahawar with 107 square miles, the average area being 133·3 square miles and the average population 66,365. Care has been taken to make the police circles conterminous with the revenue subdivisions.

Police force.

The numbers and grades of the police force and its distribution among the various stations will be found in the appendix. The total strength of the regular police employed in the district is 542. Of these 112 belonging to the armed branch and 94 belonging to the civil reserve are posted at headquarters, while the rest are distributed among the police stations. The old municipal police of Etah, Kasganj, Soron, Jalesar and Marehra have now been converted into regular police, but there are still 12 jamadars and 68 chaukidars maintained by the 12 Act XX towns from their own funds. The conversion of these however into provincial police where the town contains a police station and into rural police elsewhere will probably be effected before long. The present strength of the rural police or chaukidars, who keep watch and ward in the villages, is 1,476, and of the road police, who patrol the Grand Trunk and other roads, 82. The entire force is in the charge of the superintendent of police, who is assisted by a deputy superintendent, a reserve inspector, two circle inspectors and one prosecuting inspector.

Crime.

Statistics of criminal justice and cognizable crime for a number of years will be found in the appendix, and will show that the district still preserves much of its old reputation for the more violent

forms of crime. The classes of crime most prevalent are murder, dacoity, burglary and a certain amount of cattle theft. The murders generally arise out of personal quarrels and their frequency is due to the proneness of the people of the district to take the law into their own hands. They are most prevalent in the Aliganj and Kasganj tahsils, particularly in the Sahawar and Jaithra circles which are remote from headquarters. A form of crime very popular of late years on the eastern side of the district has been to make apparently objectless murderous assaults on men watching fields at night, extreme violence being used quite unnecessarily, and the only loot obtained being a few annas worth of clothes. The difficulty of detection in such cases is much increased in this district by the fact that it is usually regarded as a point of honour to shield a murderer, and the only evidence forthcoming as a rule is that given by the relatives of the deceased. In certain villages of the Sahawar circle, notably Dhan Singhpur, murders have during the last few years become so common as to necessitate the appointment of a special police force, and in the district as a whole the average number of murders has during the past five years been far above the provincial average. Dacoities and robberies are not now so frequent as they formerly were, but they too still exceed the average for the provinces. For the robberies the Haburas are largely responsible, they and the other criminal tribes and classes forming temporary gangs for the commission of robbery and dacoity in combination with caste-fellows from the neighbouring districts. These gangs are occasionally caught red-handed, but their extreme mobility and the rapidity and completeness with which they disperse and resume their ordinary avocations render their apprehension a matter of extreme difficulty. As a rule the most effective weapon for their discomfiture is to be found in the vigorous employment of the bad livelihood sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and any relaxation in its use invariably results in an outbreak of serious crime. Burglaries too are common and are generally the work of professional criminals like the Aherias, Haburas and some of the Ahirs. The neighbourhood of the Habura settlements and the borders of Aligarh and Mainpuri are the localities most fruitful in this form of crime. Cases of cattle theft are not so numerous

here as in most of the other districts of the division, but are still much above the provincial average: and for these the Banjaras, both resident and wandering, are usually responsible. In addition to the criminal tribes, of which some account has been given in the previous chapter, there are several local castes and classes whose members have specialised in different forms of crime. Such are the Ghosis of the Jalesar, Aliganj and Marehra circles who at home are law-abiding citizens enough, but make a practice of visiting fairs and religious gatherings in other districts and stealing the property of the pilgrims. So too the Jogis of Bilram, Tandouli and Mazidpur in the Kasganj police circle, whose special line comprises the various forms of cheating carried on under the guise of mendicancy. They are careful not to practise their mystery in their own district, and so deprive themselves of a place of refuge, but go as far afield as Patna, Bhagalpur and Calcutta in the east and Jaipur and other native states in the west before they commence operations. The Ahirs all over the district are prone to the commission of dacoity, but most of the gangs come from villages, such as Nagla Galwa, of the Nidhauli and Etah circles on the Mainpuri border, where punitive police have in the past been found necessary. The Thakurs and Brahmans of the Ganges *tarai* in the Kasganj and Aliganj tahsils are also given to violent crime, particularly murder, and were at one time not averse to dacoity. The village of Bania Dera in the Jaithra circle became the headquarters of a formidable gang—headed by the three brothers Bijai Singh, Dhara and Pohpi—which was the terror of this and the neighbouring districts, and required the posting of a force of punitive police for its suppression. Though this gang has been broken up, the character of the inhabitants of the tract makes it only too probable that they will again seek to emulate its performances.

Infanticide.

The practice of female infanticide was at one time very prevalent in Etah, and in 1871 it was found necessary to introduce rules framed under the Female Infanticide Act (VIII of 1870) for its repression. As elsewhere, the Thakurs were the offenders, the caste custom which compels the finding of a husband of higher rank for marriageable girls and the payment of a price for him proportionate to the difference in social position rendering it necessary for needy Thakurs to get

rid of superfluous daughters as speedily as possible. All the Chauhans and numbers of other clans were proclaimed, and by 1873 registers had been prepared for 113 villages with a population of 14,577. Enquiries made during the next two years, suggested by the experience of the neighbouring districts of Mainpuri and Farrukhabad, resulted in the discovery that in a large number of villages belonging to Ahirs of the Kamariya and Ghosi stocks the proportion of girls to the total minor population was smaller even than among the Rajputs, and the statistics indicated a widespread prevalence of the crime among the Ahirs. Accordingly 111 Ahir villages were added to the list. Special police were entertained for the supervision of these villages and elaborate precautions taken to ensure the immediate registration of the births of female infants, particular enquiry being made into the circumstances attending the deaths of girl-children. By these measures and the infliction of heavy punishments in proved cases the crime was so far stamped out that by 1901 there were only 14 villages in all still suspected of it, and three years later careful investigations made into the question showed that the practice might be regarded as practically extinct in the district and that any survival of it could be safely left to the operation of the ordinary law. On the 4th May 1904 the provisions of the Infanticide Act, 1870, ceased to apply to Etah.

Jail.

There is only one jail in the district, situated to the south of Etah town. This building consists of ten barracks which can accommodate 335 prisoners in all, including 90 under-trial and 10 females. There are also a hospital ward with room for 20 sick and three separate cells for condemned criminals. In 1908 the total number of convicts admitted into the jail was 759, while the daily average of prisoners confined in it was 312. The chief industries carried on are the weaving of carpets, *daris* and mats, and the twisting of *ban* fibre. In 1908 the total value of the articles manufactured and sold amounted to Rs. 2,369.

Excise.

When the district was first taken over there was practically no restriction on the sale of country liquor, but the farming system was very soon introduced and the right to manufacture and vend such liquor was auctioned for each pargana separately. In 1862 this system was replaced by the

establishment of a distillery at the headquarters of each tahsil, a small gallonage duty being levied in addition to the license fee. In order to break up the combination of the local Kalwars a few shops were taken under direct management during this period. It was soon found practicable to curtail the number of distilleries, and finally only the one at Aliganj was retained. In 1887 this too was abolished and in the following year the modified distillery system was introduced, the contract for the whole district being given to one contractor for a term of three years. At the expiration of that period the ordinary distillery system was brought in. Country liquor is now imported direct from Farrukhabad and Meerut, there being no bonded warehouse in the district. There are 58 retail and eight wholesale shops which are every year sold by auction separately, the purchasers being the local Kalwars who are commonly known in the district as Mahajans. The average receipts from the excise on country liquor for the decade ending in 1899 were Rs. 15,039 annually, while for the last nine years the average has been no less than Rs. 26,114. This large increase has been rather due to enhanced competition among the Kalwars than to any very greatly increased consumption of liquor, the average number of gallons sold every year during the two periods being respectively 4,691 and 5,630. In other words, while the receipts have risen by over 73 per cent. the consumption of liquor has only gone up by 20 per cent. The average expenditure on liquor by every 100 members of the population during the two periods has been Rs. 2·35 and Rs 3·4. The consumption of the country spirit is almost entirely confined to the lower castes, such as Chamars, Aherias and Berias, but during the plague epidemic the belief that it acts as a preventive has led to indulgence in it on the part of Musalmans and the higher castes of Hindus, and this fact probably accounts for a great part of the extra sales during the last few years. There is a very small sale for foreign liquor in the district. Besides the railway refreshment room at Kasganj there are only two shops which possess an off-license, one at Etah and the other at Kasganj.

Tari. *Tari*, the fermented liquor obtained by tapping the *tar* or palmyra palm, has been prepared and sold under the farming

system since 1862, when the principle of taxing the trees was abolished. Each tahsil is farmed out separately and the farmer makes his own arrangements with the owners of the trees, paying them from eight annas to one rupee for the right to tap. *Tari* is largely consumed by Muhammadans as well as the lower castes of Hindus. The number of shops licensed to sell *tari* is 65, and the average annual receipts for the last nine years have been Rs. 2,071.

Hemp drugs.

The consumption of hemp drugs has exhibited a remarkable decline of recent years in this district, though the receipts from them have very largely increased. Of the various preparations of hemp *ganja* was never in demand and has not been imported or sold since 1895, and both *bhang* and *charas*, the only two in use, have been losing in popularity. Formerly the right to sell hemp drugs was farmed out separately for each tahsil, but since 1901 the license has been auctioned to a single contractor for periods of three years. There are at present 67 shops licensed for the sale of *bhang* and *charas*. These are maintained by a contractor who appoints his own agents, paying them a commission on the sales effected which varies from 9 pies to 2 annas in the rupee. During the nine years ending in 1899 the average annual consumption of *charas* was 60 maunds and 23 *sers*, while that of *bhang* was 125 maunds, and the average annual receipts on account of both drugs during the same period were Rs. 6,738. The average receipts for each of the last nine years have been Rs. 18,375, and the quantities of *bhang* and *charas* sold have been respectively 25 maunds and 26 maunds 20 *sers* on an annual average. The average incidence of the expenditure on hemp drugs per hundred of the population during the two periods has been Re. 1·02 and Rs. 2·15.

Opium.

Opium is largely cultivated in this district and the impossibility of preventing cultivators from holding back part of the produce of their fields affect the sale of the prepared article. The sales of factory opium, taking the average annual consumption, have risen during the last nine years to 32 maunds 28 *sers* as compared with 26 maunds 29 *sers* for the preceding period. Muhammadans are, as elsewhere, the chief

consumers, and the drug is more commonly smoked than eaten. There are 25 licensed shops in the district which are put up to auction separately, and the average annual receipts from opium during the last nine years have amounted to Rs. 13,614 as compared with Rs. 11,274, the average of the nine previous years.

Stamps. A table given in the appendix shows the income derived from stamps for each year since 1890-1891, with details for judicial and other stamps. As will be seen there has been a very considerable increase in the receipts from this source during the last 18 years, the figures for 1907-1908 being almost exactly double those for 1890-1891. The remarkable rise of over 20 per cent. in the sales of court-fee and copy stamps in 1900-01 may be attributed to the augmented litigation caused by the Rent Act of 1900. The average receipts on account of all kinds of stamps for the last ten years of the last century were Rs. 1,15,453, while for the first eight years of the present century the average has risen to Rs. 1,58,037, some 78 per cent. of the total being contributed by judicial stamps.

Income-tax. Income-tax is collected in this as in other districts under the Indian Income-Tax. Act (II of 1886,) and a separate return for the whole district and for each tahsil will be found in the appendix. The total collections are not large, as is natural in an agricultural district of small proprietors with few industries and manufactures. In 1903 incomes of less than Rs. 1,000 were exempted from taxation, and a considerable decline in the receipts is consequently noticeable from that year, the average total for the last five years being Rs. 27,787 as compared with Rs. 34,620 for the preceding five; there are now only 546 persons assessed to income-tax in the district as against 1,476 in 1891. The largest proportion of the whole is contributed by the Kasganj tahsil, which contains the largest and most important town in the district, while Jalesar pays the least. It is probable that the process of reduction has been carried too far and future years should see an increase both in the number of assessees and in the total assessment.

Registration. The registrar of the district is the district judge of Aligarh, subordinate to whom are four sub-registrars stationed at each of

the tahsil headquarters at Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj and Jalesar. Until a few years ago the registration of documents was done by the tahsildars, but special officers are now appointed for the purpose. The average receipts on account of registration for the last five years have been Rs. 9,000 and the average charges Rs. 3,531. The increase under the former head is considerable and satisfactory when compared with the previous decade. The heaviest work is done at the Kasganj office, where the average income has been Rs. 3,477, and the lightest at Jalesar, where the receipts have only averaged Rs. 1,201.

Municipalities and Act XX towns. Etah now contains four municipalities each with a full-time secretary, the towns of Etah, Kasganj, Soron and Jalesar. Until 1904 Marehra was also a municipality, but in that year it was reduced to the status of a notified area. The administration is in each case vested in a board, consisting in the case of Etah and Kasganj of 11 members of whom eight are elected, the remainder being nominated by Government, while at Soron and Jalesar the board is made up of six elected and two official members. Octroi provides the main source of income, supplemented by rents derived from the lease of municipal lands and the sale of night soil and sweepings; conservancy forms the principal head of expenditure, though the maintenance of roads and drains and various other works of public utility are also important charges. Details of income and expenditure for each year since 1890-91 will be found in the appendix. There are now 12 towns administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856, Sarai-Aghat having been removed from the list on the 1st April 1909. Of these the largest is Aliganj, with a population of 5,835, which was a municipality until 1890, but it like all the rest is little more than an overgrown agricultural village. There remain Awa, Dundwaraganj, Sahawar, Bilram, Kadirganj, Patiali, Sakit, Rampur, Nidhauli, Amanpur and Mohanpur. Details of the receipts and disbursements of the town funds will be found in the articles in the directory. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) has been applied to these towns and to 29 of the larger villages besides them.

District board. The district board is constituted under the United Provinces District Boards Act (III of 1906), which repealed the old Act of

1883; it consists of 16 members of whom 12 are elected, three from each tahsil, the remainder including the district magistrate as chairman and the subdivisional officers. The duties and powers of the board are wide and various, comprising the maintenance and repair of all roads and buildings outside municipal areas which are not maintained from provincial funds, the superintendence of education and the management of a number of local institutions such as dispensaries, fairs, ferries and cattle-pounds. The provision of a full-time secretary is one of the urgent needs of the district.

Education. Among the most important duties of the district board are those connected with the control and maintenance of schools and the district educational establishment. In the early days of the British administration of the district there were no public institutions, and instruction was afforded solely by *pathshalas* and *maktabs* which were practically of a purely religious character. The first step towards reform was taken in 1850, when three tahsili schools were established by Mr. S. H. Reid at the tahsil headquarters of Etah, Kasganj and Aliganj. Village schools were opened in 1856, and in 1860, nearly four years after the transfer of the district headquarters from Patiali to Etah, an English school was started at the latter town by Major Pearson. Six years later this was converted into a *zila* school and at the same time several girls' schools were established. There are at present five tahsili schools, one of which is at Awa while the others are at the four tahsil headquarters, 144 primary board schools and 75 aided schools for boys, and for girls there are 20 board primary schools and one aided school. In 1906 the *zila* school was raised to the status of a high school through the generosity of Babu Ulfat Rai and Babu Tirheni Saran. It is now affiliated to the Allahabad University and has further applied for recognition as one of the schools at which the examination for the school-leaving certificate, which has now become the passport to government service, may be held. A full list of the schools in the district and the number of scholars attending them will be found in the appendix. The total enrolment on the 31st March 1908 was 7,152 boys and 486 girls, and at the *zila* school during the year 1908-09 the average enrolment was 163. For

the management of the schools the board employs on educational establishment consisting of one deputy inspector and two sub-deputy inspectors. The *zila* school is managed by the educational department. In addition to the schools supported by the district and municipal boards there are several other private institutions, such as the Anglo-vernacular Islamiah school at Marehra, the English mission school at Kasganj, the Anglo-Sanskrit pathshala at Patiali, the Sanskrit pathshalas at Etah and Kasganj, and a few Musalman schools in various places where boys are taught to read the Quran. It will thus be seen that Etah is abundantly furnished with educational facilities; but it is none the less a very backward district. There is very little demand for education and a large number of the 144 primary schools now kept open might with advantage be closed at once to judge from the average monthly attendance which has, in some cases, sunk as low as two and three pupils. The prevailing apathy has extended to the teaching staff, and in the villages there is as little eagerness to teach as to be taught. In the towns however many of the larger schools are remarkably efficient and successful.

Literacy.

The returns of the number of literate persons afford a useful index of the progress of education in the district. Statistics were first collected in 1872, when it was found that there was not a single female "able to read or write or under instruction" in the district, while of males only 3 per cent. possessed these qualifications. The correctness of these figures may perhaps be doubted, especially in the case of females. By 1881 a useful beginning had been made in the matter of female education, and ·07 per cent. were returned as literate, while the male percentage had risen to 3·8. In 1891 a further improvement was observed, the proportion of literate females having more than doubled, and ·15 per cent. of the sex being able to read and write—all that the term "literate" implies in this connection—while 4·4 per cent. of the male population had reached the same educational level. At the enumeration of 1901 though the percentage of literate females showed a slight rise to ·16, that of men had fallen back to 3·9. It is worthy of remark that the statistics of male literacy have varied inversely with those of population, the greatest rise in the percentage of literate

men having occurred during the period of greatest depression and depopulation, while the subsequent period of prosperity and returning population has been accompanied by a decline in the proportion of literate males. Female literacy on the other hand has not followed this rule. The explanation would seem to be that literacy is nearly confined to the more well-to-do classes who are comparatively unaffected by bad seasons and are in any case not driven to emigrate, while the poorest classes, among whom the great fluctuation in numbers takes place, are almost all illiterate. Etah holds at present a low place in the scale of literacy, only three other districts in the provinces showing a lower proportion of literate males, though 18 are worse off in regard to female education. As usual the proportion of persons able to read and write is higher among Musalmans than among Hindus, the respective figures being 2·42 and 1·91 per cent. Etah is still very backward in the matter of English education, only ·08 per cent. of the total population having any tincture of it. Here again Musalmans make the better show with a percentage of ·12 to ·05. In spite of the higher proportion of literate Musalmans the Nagri script is much more widely used than the Urdu, the percentage of persons knowing the latter being only ·47 compared with 1·44 acquainted with Hindi.

Dispensaries.

There are eight hospitals and dispensaries in the district, all but one of which are maintained by the district board under the supervision of the civil surgeon. The two largest are the district hospital at Etah and the branch dispensary at Kasganj, both of which were opened at some date prior to 1865. The first dispensary of whose opening there is any record is that at Garhi, which in 1865 was founded as a district board dispensary but was in 1905 handed over to private management and now receives no aid from public sources. In 1870 a dispensary was opened at Jalesar and others at Aliganj and Soron in 1873. The last named was closed for a while in 1878 but re-opened in 1881, and in the same year a branch was established at Awa. Five years later the Marehra branch was opened. The number of indoor patients treated at all the hospitals and dispensaries in the district during 1908 was 835, the headquarters

hospital accounting for nearly 70 per cent. of this total. No less than 96,134 outdoor patients were treated in all, this enormous figure being explained as due to the virulent epidemic of malaria which prevailed throughout the district from August to December of that year.

Cattle pounds. The district board now maintains nineteen cattle-pounds, and five others are kept up by the municipalities of Etah, Kasganj, Soron and Jalesar, and the notified area of Marehra. The district board pounds are situated at the police stations and at Garhi-Baindola, Bilram, Amanpur, Mohanpur, Sarai Aghat, Dundwara Ganj, Rampur, Dhumri, and Umargarh. In 1908 they produced an income of Rs. 8,554. The receipts from the municipal pounds, which are credited to municipal funds, have during the last five years averaged Rs. 2,710, while the average expenditure has only been Rs. 565.

Nazul. The largest piece of *nazul* property in the district is the village of Sarai Patti with an area of 94 acres and a population of 236. It is situated in pargana Sirhpura and the annual rental demand is about Rs. 300. This estate was in 1893 put up for sale on account of an unpaid arrear of revenue, but no bid was received for it. It was accordingly taken over by the Government and has since been managed as state property. The six encamping-grounds at Bhadwas, Etah, Malawan, Kasganj, Soron and Mohanpur bring in a considerable income from the sale of grazing and cultivating rights. In 1908 these were auctioned for Rs. 1,138. Besides these there are 22 plots of *nazul* land under the control of the Collector. Of these the most important is the cotton market at Dundwara Ganj, which brings in Rs. 1,000 a year. The old forts at Sakit and Patiali are leased out to cultivators, and produce an income of Rs. 15 and Rs. 200 a year respectively. The Patiali fort was in June 1909 transferred to the control of the district board.

CHAPTER V.

HISTORY.

Early history.

Of the early history of the tract now comprised in the Etah district little or nothing is known. The large *kheras* or mounds at Atranji Khera and elsewhere, together with the ruins of Bilsar, show that at a quite early period the district contained large and flourishing towns. General Cunningham's excavations at Bilsar brought to light, as described elsewhere, the remains of a temple containing an inscription of Kumaragupta I, dated in the 96th year of the Gupta era, which corresponds to 415 A. D. Evidently therefore Bilsar was at the beginning of the fifth century a place of no small importance. And if General Cunningham's identification of Atranji Khera with the Pilo-chan-na of Hiuen Tsang be accepted, then a great part of Etah must have been included in the kingdom of which it was the capital. In 636 A.D., the year in which Hiuen Tsang visited Pilo-chan-na, the kingdom was 2,000 *li*, or 333 miles, in circuit, and the circumference of the capital was twelve *li*, or two miles. He describes the people as of a conceited and turbulent disposition, but fond of literature. There were few Buddhists in the city and but two monasteries, while the temples of the gods were only five in number.

Tribal traditions.

The legends of all the great houses describe their founders as immigrants from other districts who drove out the aboriginal inhabitants, and it may be conjectured with some probability that from the sixth to the tenth centuries the Ahirs and Bhars were the chief land owning tribes. It is not easy to determine the period to which the Rajput immigrations are to be assigned. The traditions of the different clans are at variance on this point, but none claim an earlier date than the tenth century. The Somadatta who built the large fort on the mound near the present town may be

identified with the Raja Sonamatti of the Solankhi clan, who very early led a large colony into the district and occupied Soron, Utarna and Amapur. The Rathors assert that on the fall of Kanauj in 1193 their ancestors migrated to Khor, whence they were expelled in the fifteenth century. One branch of them under Dhir Sah drove out the Bhars from Azamnagar, Barna and Sonhar, and planted the colonies that are now found in those parganas. With the Rathors came Katiyas, Katyars and Joshis, of whom the last-named still possess a portion of the grants then made to them. Among the earliest immigrants were the Kshatriyas of the Gondal or Kontal and Tahla clans, both of which are now almost extinct. The Chauhans did not appear in force until about the fourteenth century, when Dhiraraj took possession of Bilram. Fifth in descent from him came Sakit Deo, who drove out the Bhars from Sakit and took Rajaur. Another scion of the house, Jai Chand, went to Marehra and occupied Basundara. The Chauhans seem to have come into the district in considerable numbers, for they were in a short time able not only to establish themselves firmly here, but also to send out colonies to Etawah, Chandwar and Bhongaon, and under their Raos, Rawats and Rajas, to found separate chieftaincies in Bilram, Sakit, Basundara, Jarasmi and Etah.

Kingdom of Kanauj.

There can be no doubt that at the time of Hiuen Tsang's visit the Etah district formed an integral part of the great empire just created by Harsha with Kanauj for capital, and its proximity to that city renders it practically certain that it continued to be included in the dominions of the Gurjara chiefs who seized the throne of Kanauj in the ninth century. In 1018 came the invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni and the capture and sack of Kanauj. Its king Rajyapala had offered but a faint-hearted resistance to Mahmud and tamely submitted to be his vassal. This conduct exasperated the Chandel chief of Kalanjar, and as soon as Mahmud had returned to Ghazni he invaded Kanauj and defeated and killed Rajyapala. The latter's son however was allowed to succeed, and the Gurjara or Parihar dynasty remained on the throne till 1090, when it was wrested from them by the Gaharwar raja Chandradeva. In 1193 came the Musalman invasion under Shahab-ud-din Ghori, and Kanauj

was once more captured. This time the invaders did not return to their homes but remained to complete their conquest, and when Shahab-ud-din died in 1205-06 A.D. nearly the whole of northern India was included in his dominions.

Musalman period.

Their newly acquired territories were parcelled out by the Musalman conquerors into *iktas* or fiefs, each of which was placed in the charge of a governor, and Etah would appear to have been divided up between the fiefs of Kanauj and Biana. But the Musalman governors seem to have won but a doubtful obedience from their new subjects. That turbulence of disposition noticed by Hiuen Tsang when Etah was under a Hindu king developed under alien rule to a savage intractability which often defied even the power of the supreme government. Almost the only mentions of the district in the pages of the Musalman historians are in connection with some punitive expedition rendered necessary by the rebellious lawlessness of the Etah Rajputs. The country was then as wild as when first occupied by the British, a land of *dhak* forests and marshes, studded with forts and inhabited by a lawless peasantry. Sultan Ghiyas-ud-din Balban (1265-1287 A. D.) was more than once compelled to march in person to the neighbourhood of Kampil and Patiali;—"there he remained for five or six months, putting the rebels to the sword. The roads to Hindustan were thus cleared, so that caravans and merchants could pass, and great spoil in slaves, cattle and horses was secured. Kampil and Bhojpur had been the strongholds of the robbers who infested the roads, so the Sultan erected in these places three strong forts in which he placed Afghan garrisons. He set apart culturable lands for the garrisons, and under the protection of these forces robbery was suppressed and the roads were made safe." So long as the strong rule of Sultan Balban lasted, these Musalman colonies which he scattered over the land secured some measure of law and order. He himself made frequent journeys through the Duab to see that his orders were carried out, and "the den of robbers was thus converted into a guard house, and Musalmans and guardians of the way took the place of highway robbers."*

* E. H. I., III, pp. 105, 246.

Rajput rebellions.

But with the death of Sultan Balban the old anarchy and disorder soon returned. Sultan Jalal-ud-din Firoz Shah (1290-95) had to visit the district in person in order to levy revenue from its inhabitants. Muhammad bin Tughlak (1325-51), visiting Patiali on his way to Khor and the Ganges, had to encamp and send out parties to reduce the holders of forts and fastnesses to submission. So disturbed and critical was the condition of the Duab at this period that Sultan Muhammad Shah in 1389 found it expedient to make Jalesar his headquarters during his war with the rival Sultan Abu Bakr, and after crushing a serious rising of the Duab Rajputs in 1392 he built a fortress there which he called Muhammadabad.* In the same year he went to Delhi to hold a court, but left his general Mukarrub-ul-mulk at Jalesar with an army. The need for this precaution was shown when in the following year a fresh insurrection broke out. This was quelled by the politic treachery of Mukarrub-ul-mulk who by promises and engagements induced the rebel leaders to submit and then had them put to death. In January 1394 Muhammad Shah fell sick and died at Jalesar, where he had gone to inspect the progress of his new buildings.† In the same year "through the turbulence of the base infidels, the affairs of the fiefs of Hindustan had fallen into such confusion" that the eastern provinces were formed into a separate viceroyalty and placed in the charge of the Wazir Khwaja-i-Jahan, who assumed the title of Maliku-sh Sharq (King of the East). The new viceroy, after "chastising the infidels" of the Duab, established himself at Jaunpur, and gradually laid the foundations of what was to become in after years an independent kingdom.

The accession of Mahmud Shah the youngest son of Muhammad Shah in 1394 was followed by a period of anarchy and civil war, during which the governors of the various fiefs threw off all allegiance and held their territories for themselves. The moment was an opportune one for the rebellious Rajputs of the Duab, and they did not fail to take advantage of it. But in 1400 A. D. Ikbal Khan, the general of Mahmud Shah, attacked Rai Sir the Rajput leader at Patiali. The rebels were in strong force but were utterly routed and driven with heavy loss to the

* E. H. I., IV pp. 22-26. | † Ibid p. 27.

Etawah border.* The intestine confusion of the next few years however prevented any lasting pacification of the country, and in 1414 another punitive expedition was necessary. Taj-ul-Mulk was sent with an army into Hindustan, and after a successful campaign in Rohilkhand swept round by Khor, Kampil and Sakit to the Jamna. Jalesar, which had fallen back into the possession of "the infidels of Chandawar", was taken from them and garrisoned anew with Musalmans. In 1416 and 1418 the same general made other expeditions into this and the neighbouring districts.† But the punishment they had received was not sufficient to subdue the refractory Rajputs, and both Khizr Khan and Mubarak Shah were continually occupied in attempts to reduce them to submission.

The Lodis.

At the accession of Bahlol Lodi (1450-1488) the bulk of the district seems to have been in the possession of the Rajput chief Rai Partab of Bhongaon, who, we are told, held Patiali, Kampil and Bhongaon,‡ apparently with the sanction of the Musalman government. During the next thirty-seven years it formed, like the rest of the Duab, the battle-ground on which was fought out the contest for supremacy between Delhi and Jaunpur, and it was at Sonhar in 1487 that Bahlol won the decisive victory which practically terminated the war. In the following year the Sultan, if the Chauhan traditions are to be believed, was wounded in an engagement with the Rajputs of Sakit, and died there. This story however differs from that of the Musalman historian Niamat-ullah, who ascribes his death to an illness contracted on his way back from Etawah.§ Sikandar Lodi, the son and successor of Bahlol, marched against the Hindu confederacy and obtained a questionable success in a battle fought near Atrauli, but that this was not decisive is shown by the fact that Rao Khan was despatched soon afterwards to attack the Chauhans in their home near Bilram. The rebels were utterly defeated and their fort destroyed. Sikandar's son Ibrahim also visited the district and fought with the Chauhans at Sakit, driving many of them to take refuge in Bhadawar.

* E. H. I., IV. p. 37. | † *Ibid.* pp. 47, 48 50. | ‡ *Ibid.* V. p. 74. § *Ibid.* p. 91.

The defeat of Ibrahim by Babar at Panipat in 1526 was followed by another period of violent commotion throughout Hindustan. For once Hindu chiefs and Musalman governors united to oppose the invader. But the victories of Sikri in 1528 and Kanauj in 1529 shattered in turn the Hindu confederacy and the recalcitrant Afghans, and left Babar undisputed master of Hindustan. But he had not time to restore order, and from his death in 1530 till the accession of his grandson Akbar in 1556 confusion and anarchy prevailed throughout the Duab, interrupted only for a few years during the iron rule of Sher Shah. A remarkable description of the condition of the people of Sakit is given in an account of an adventure which befell Akbar when hunting in that neighbourhood in 1562: "The people inhabiting the villages round Sakit stood unrivalled for their rebellious spirit and ungratefulness; the eye of the age never saw rebels, thieves and murderers like them; they are not only themselves disorderly, but keep the villages and their inhabitants in a state of disorder, and they live a bold sort of life, which only fools call bravery. The officers of the district had frequently complained of the inhabitants."*

The Mughal

Among the most important of the administrative reforms instituted by Akbar was the redistribution of his territories into *subahs* or provinces, made up of *sarkars* which were further subdivided for revenue purposes into *mahals*. On each of these *mahals* a certain fixed sum was assessed and a certain contingent of troops was levied. Of the tract which now constitutes the Etah district almost the whole was included in the *subah* of Agra, the only exception being the small pargana of Faizpur-Badaria which formed part of *mahal* Sahaswan in *sarkar* Badaon of *subah* Dehli. How much of the total cultivated area of 253,120 *bighas* which that *mahal* contained is included in the modern pargana it is impossible to estimate. The remainder of the present district was divided among *sarkars* Agra, Kanauj and Koil. *Mahal* Jalesar, corresponding to the tahsil of the same name, was in *sarkar* Agra, and is mentioned as possessing a brick fort and having a cultivated area of 904,733 *bighas*, assessed at 68,35,400 *dams*. The population consisted mainly of

Akbar's reorganisation.

* Proc. A. S. B. 1874, p. 102.

Gahlot Rajputs, who had to supply a contingent of 400 cavalry and 5,000 infantry to the imperial army. In *sarkar* Kanauj were the *mahals* of Patiali, Sakit, Sahawar, Sikandarpur Atreji and Shamsabad. The last named, which was of immense size, has now been divided up between Farrukhabad and Etah, the greater part along with the chief town, being included within the border of Farrukhabad, and only pargana Azamnagar being left in Etah. *Mahal* Patiali was assessed at 18,77,600 *dams* on a cultivated area of 158,634 *bighas*, and the Chauhan Rajputs who were its principal inhabitants were liable to furnish 100 cavalry and 2,000 infantry. The same caste held most of the land in *mahal* Sakit where their contingent was 100 horse and 3,000 foot, while their assessment was 32,30,752 *dams* on 132,955 *bighas*. The two *mahals* of Sahawar and Sikandarpur Atreji made up the modern Sahawar-Karsana, and in Akbar's time the total cultivation of the two amounted to 114,658 *bighas* assessed at 521,867 *dams*. In Sahawar the Gauruah landholders were called upon to furnish 20 horse and 500 foot, but the contingent levied from the Rajputs of Sikandarpur Atreji was only 5 mounted and 150 unmounted men. The modern pargana of Sonhar has been carved out of *mahal* Barna in the same *sarkar*. The *mahals* of Bilram, Pachlana, Soron, Sidhupur and Marahrah were all in the Koil *sarkar*. Bilram was held by Afghan and Chauhan zamindars who were expected to put into the field 50 cavalry and 1,000 infantry, and to pay 21,31,765 *dams* on 111,878 *bighas* of cultivation. In Pachlana the cultivated area was only 39,128 *bighas* paying 624,825 *dams*, but the Gaurahar Rajputs who held the pargana had to furnish no less than 200 cavalry and 5,000 infantry soldiers. Soron on the other hand, where the landlords were Saiyids and Rajputs, was only liable for 20 horse and 400 foot soldiers, though its cultivated area of 40,656 *bighas* was almost the same as that of Pachlana. It was however more heavily assessed to revenue, the demand amounting to 8,75,016 *dams*. Sidhupur, representing the modern Sirhpura, contained 70,567 *bighas* of cultivation, assessed at 9,89,458 *dams*. The landholders were Surki Rajputs. The large *mahal* of Marahrah paid 36,79,582 *dams* on 205,537 *bighas* of cultivation, and its Chauhan zamindars were bound to supply a contingent of 200 horse and 2,000 foot.

During the reigns of Akbar and his successors Jahangir and Shahjahan the whole of Hindustan enjoyed a period of unwonted peace, which continued, so far as this portion of the Duab was concerned, through the long reign of Aurangzeb (1658—1707). It was not till 1737 that the Maratha inroads, which had for some years past been threatening the stability of the empire, penetrated to this district. In that year a Maratha force under Baji Rao was advancing on Jalesar when it was encountered by Burhan-ul-Mulk with the imperial army and driven back in rout across the Jamna. At this time the Etah parganas were included in the territories granted to Muhammad Khan Bangash, the first Nawab of Farrukhabad, who after a varied career, first as a soldier of fortune and later in the service of Farrukhsiyar and his successors, had risen from obscurity to one of the highest positions in the empire. When he died in 1743 he left to his son Qaim Khan possessions which were popularly stated to embrace the whole Ganges-Jamna Duab from Kol in the north to Kora in the south. Such widely-extended influence could hardly be looked on with equanimity by the central government, and when Safdar Jang, the subahdar of Oudh, was appointed Wazir in 1748, the new minister lost no time in attempting to break the power of the Nawab. An opportunity soon presented itself. In 1749 Ali Muhammad, the governor of Rohilkhand, died, and Safdar Jang caused an imperial *farman* to be issued conferring on Qaim Khan the *mahals* of Bareilly and Moradabad, in the confident expectation that the Nawab's claim would be resisted by the Rohillas and the resulting war would so weaken both parties as to leave them impotent for mischief. Qaim Khan at once set out with a large force to take possession of his new territories but at Kadirganj, on the Ganges, he was defeated and slain by the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan. Safdar Jang at once attempted to seize Farrukhabad and the other Bangash parganas; but Ahmad Khan the son of Qaim Khan collected his adherents and in 1750 defeated the Wazir's general Nawab Rai at Khudaganj, and the Wazir himself soon afterwards near Patiali. But instead of crushing his enemy as he might now have done, the Nawab contented himself with the recovery of the territories which had formerly belonged to his

Nawa[b of] Farru[kh]abad.

family; and a protracted siege of Allahabad gave the Wazir time to recover himself and call in the help of the Marathas. Ahmad Khan was obliged to retreat to Fatehgarh, and later to take refuge in Rohilkhand and Kumaon. Here he remained till 1752, when a second invasion of India by Ahmad Shah Durrani made both Safdar Jang and the Marathas anxious for peace. It was agreed that Rohilkhand and Farrukhabad should be evacuated by the Marathas on condition that Ahmad Khan took over the debt of thirty lakhs of rupees due from Safdar Jang to the Marathas as payment for their services, ceding as security for the debt sixteen and a half of the thirty-three *mahals* comprised in his territories. The management of the whole remained in the hands of Ahmad Khan, who paid the surplus revenue, after deducting the cost of management and the pay of the troops, to two Maratha agents stationed at Kanauj and Aliganj. Payments continued to be made till the battle of Panipat in 1761, when the Marathas left Hindustan for a time.

Jalesar. After Panipat some at least of the Etah parganas were recovered by Ahmad Khan. Jalesar however seems to have fallen into the hands of the Jats; for we find that in 1769 the Marathas "overran and spread devastation in the country which belonged to Ranjit Singh, Jat, from Agra to Kol and Jalesar." From the Jats it was wrested by Najaf Khan the Amir-ul-umra of Shah Alam, and was held by him till his death in 1778; it then again came under the rule of the Marathas, who kept it till its annexation by the British after Lord Lake's campaign in 1803.

The English. In 1754 Safdar Jang died and was succeeded by his son Shuja-ud-daula as Nawab of Oudh. It was in 1764 that the latter first came into conflict with the English, who defeated him in that year at Buxar, and in the following year near Jajmau. Reduced to extremity he threw himself on his enemy's generosity, and proceeding almost unattended to the English camp was honourably received. On the arrival of Clive a treaty of alliance was entered into. The whole of his former possessions were restored to Shuja-ud-daula with the exception of Kora and Allahabad, which were reserved for the emperor Shah Alam as a royal demesne, and the nglish bound themselves to assist him to the utmost of their

ability if he was attacked. On his part the Wazir undertook to pay 50 lakhs of rupees to the English and the Emperor formally assigned to the Company the right of collecting the revenues of Bengal, Behar and Orissa in consideration of an annual payment of 26 lakhs. Clive's object was the maintenance of a friendly buffer state on the border of the English territories as a barrier against the perpetual inroads of the Marathas. But though Shuja-ud-daula was willing enough to co-operate against what he recognized to be the common enemy, the feeble emperor, who had set his heart on being restored to Delhi, was quite indifferent, and when in 1771 the Marathas, who were now in possession of the capital, opened negotiations with him, he acceded eagerly to all their demands and conditions and in December of that year returned to Delhi as their vassal. The Marathas at once recommenced their incursions into Rohilkhand. The Wazir appealed to the English for help, and a brigade under Sir Robert Barker was despatched into Oudh. After a good deal of intrigue a reciprocal treaty was entered into between the Wazir, the Rohillas and the English for mutual assistance against the Marathas, while the Rohillas bound themselves to pay 40 lakhs of rupees to the Wazir for his services. In 1772 the Marathas, who had now thrown off all pretence of respect for the emperor, compelled him to give them a grant of the provinces of Kora and Allahabad which had been assigned to him by the English, and again entered Rohilkhand, but were expelled by Sir Robert Barker's brigade. In the following year it was decided that the emperor had by his own act abandoned all title to Kora and Allahabad, and these districts were accordingly conferred on Shuja-ud-daula. The Marathas were now driven out of most of the parganas which they had seized in the Duab, and the Etah district was until the cession in 1801 pretty evenly distributed between the Nawab Wazir and the Nawab of Farrukhabad.

After the cession.

At the cession these parganas were distributed among the neighbouring districts of Etawah, Farrukhabad and Aligarh. A small cantonment was established at Kasganj, but was burnt in 1804 " by a refractory zamindar."* In November of that year Holkar's army crossed the north of the district closely pursued by Lord

* Thorn, p. 390.

Lake. So close was the pursuit that the British arrived at Aliganj on the 16th in time to find the town still burning. A forced march of 36 miles without tents or baggage brought them to Farrukhabad as dawn was breaking on the 17th. The surprise was complete. The enemy's army was destroyed and Holkar driven in flight across the Mainpuri district.

Until the Mutiny no further war disturbed the peace of the district, though the lawless and disorderly character of its inhabitants often gave considerable trouble to the authorities. In 1805 Himmat Singh the Raja of Himmatnagar Bajhera wrote thus to the agent to the Governor General at Farrukhabad:* "During the present year Dundi Khan of Kamona (in the Aligarh district) became a rebel, and absconding from Farrukhabad he took himself to his own place of residence. The above Dundi Khan and Nahar Ali Khan of Imlani and Nonidh Singh renter of Jahangirabad and Daulat Singh of Pilkhana having united and having assembled together a large body of horse and foot, created disturbances in Atrauli, Dewai and Kauriyaganj and other places, and after having plundered them established their own thanas. They then proceeded to Anupshahr; and at this time Raja Sher Singh zamindar of Anupshahr had gone to attend the collector at Moradabad; during the absence of Sher Singh they found an opportunity of surrounding his fort and took it by force of arms. They then entered my district and created disturbances in Kasganj, Sirhpura and Amapur, plundered those places, destroyed the crops and established their thanas. At this period I was ordered by Mr. Reilly, magistrate of Etawah, to give every assistance in my power to Kasganj, Sakit, Marahchi and Etah. I accordingly did so by entertaining a body of horse and foot and posting them at the above places. About this period Colonel Bowie and Mr. Russell proceeded to Sirhpura for the purpose of punishing the rebels. Lord Lake and Mr. Reilly proceeded from Etawah in the direction of Kasganj and Etah, and I attended with a body of armed men."

The Mutiny.

During the next fifty years the history of Etah consisted of the settlement of the country and the introduction of the rule of law and order, which went on uninterrupted until the Mutiny

* Board's Rec., August 13, 1805, no. 16.

of 1857. In that year Mr. A. L. Phillips and Mr. Hall were in civil charge of the district, when on the 18th May news was brought in of the outbreak at Meerut on the 10th. Precautions were taken to guard against surprise by doubling the patrols along the roads and arresting all suspected persons, and communications were maintained daily with Aligarh, Mainpuri, Agra and Farrukhabad. All zamindars of influence were written to or verbally warned to do their utmost to keep the country quiet and to give immediate intimation of any attempt at outbreak or disorder, and almost all the treasure was removed to Mainpuri. On the 21st May no communication was received from Aligarh, and on the same day intelligence was received of the outbreak at Aligarh from a sergeant of patrols, who stated that he had met with a large body of sepoys of the regiment at Aligarh (the 9th N.I.), who had informed him that the main body of the regiment had started for Delhi, and they were on their way to warn the detachments of the same regiment on duty at Mainpuri, Etawah and Etah. This story was confirmed by the havildar of the party, and the whole body left Etah next morning without making any disturbance. The magistrates of Etawah and Mainpuri were warned of these movements. There was no force left in Etah except twenty-five men of the jail guard, who had already shown a mutinous spirit by demanding arrears of pay which they falsely declared to be due to them; and, as there was no place of strength in the civil station that could be defended, the magistrate resolved to leave it until the mutineers from Mainpuri and Etawah had passed through. On the night of the 22nd news arrived that the detachments from those places had already commenced their march and had arrived at Malawan, some fourteen miles from Etah. Mr. Phillips set out the next morning for Bilram and halted at Nadrai, where news was brought to him that all the public buildings and the private houses of the district officers had been burned and plundered by one Ran Bahadur and the Sadhs of the neighbourhood. The bazar itself was looted, and Damar Singh, Raja of Etah, did nothing to restore order. Mr. Phillips continued his march to Bilram, where he was hospitably received by Dilsukh Rai and his brother, Lahori Mal.

State of the country.

The country was in great disorder; all the roads were swarming with banditti, and it was reported that Kasganj itself was threatened by plunderers. After collecting some twenty-five mounted men Mr. Phillips proceeded to Kasganj, leaving Mr. Hall in Etah. He found that a body of dacoits had already made an attack on the town and that another was threatened. This news was brought to him at the *barahdari*, a large building at the intersection of four straight roads in the town, and while he was listening to the tale the cry arose that the *balwa* was returning. The account of the ensuing affray may be given in his own words:—"I saw a compact body advancing up the street, filling it from side to side; the first rank marching in order dressed in a kind of uniform with cross-belts and carrying guns, and some lathis held as muskets: the whole could not be less than five hundred men. As soon as they saw us some hesitation was apparent, on which, calling on the horsemen to follow, the jamadar and I charged them. They fired some shots as we advanced, but broke before we reached them, and the whole body took to flight. We followed for some distance outside the town and killed many; but the ground was difficult for following dispersed footmen, and we were too small a body to separate far. Indeed with the exception of the jamadar and two horsemen the rest showed little inclination to follow." Ten men were killed in the charge, including a neighbouring zamindar, and two prisoners were taken, who were subsequently tried and executed. Soon after the officials of the station of Etah arrived with about ten of the jail guard and reported that they had met with no personal ill-treatment from the Raja of Etah, but had found him surrounded by a crowd of blackguards whom he was unable or unwilling to control, and so had been in fear of being plundered themselves. The magistrate established himself at Kasganj on the 26th May and the same day received news of a dacoity at Soron. Finding his own guard and horsemen mutinous and insubordinate, he determined to cross over to Budaun and ask for assistance from Bareilly.

Retreat of the officials.

On his arrival at Budaun Mr. Phillips sent an express to Bareilly, but was told to expect no help, and he soon after heard of the mutiny there. On his return he heard that

Mr. Bramly had arrived with some troops at Patiali. These proved to be some sixty men from different regiments of irregular cavalry who had been on leave in the Farrukhabad district. On the 2nd June they were joined by Mr. R. Edwards from Budaun, Mr. Gibson and the Messrs. Donnelly, who reported the mutiny of the troops there and the plundering of the treasury. At the same time news arrived that Dundwaraganj had been sacked with the connivance of a neighbouring Muhammadan zamindar. The latter was however immediately attacked in revenge, and his property plundered, by a vast mob of Hindus. The rider who brought the letters from Farrukhabad reported that he had escaped with difficulty from the villages on the road, and that night many of the cavalry deserted. On the 3rd June news arrived that the trans-Ganges districts were all in open mutiny, and that a large body of sepoys then at Kasganj would visit Patiali if they knew that any Europeans were there: it was accordingly resolved to move to Mainpuri. Arriving next morning at Rupdhani, about three miles from Kuraoli on the Grand Trunk Road, the fugitives found the road occupied by a regiment of mutineer cavalry on its way from Lucknow to Delhi, and were therefore obliged to return to Patiali, narrowly escaping on the way a body of sepoys who had encamped between Patiali and Kasganj. Mr. Edwards and the party from Budaun next attempted to march across Rohilkhand, but were repulsed at Kadirganj, and made their way to Fatehgarh with the loss of one of their number. Mr. Bramly's horsemen were dismissed to their homes, and Messrs. Phillips, Hall and Bramly proceeded towards Agra. On their way they were coldly received by Chaudhri Muhammad Ali Khan of Sahawar, but eventually succeeded in reaching Agra by way of Manota and Awa on the 7th June.

Damar Singh sets up as Raja.

The district was now without a ruler, and on the 29th June Damar Singh set himself up as an independent Raja in the south of the district. Another competitor for power was Lal Ratan Singh, the agent of the estates of the Raja of Rajaur, who wherever his master's influence extended usurped an illegal authority over all persons and places. He established himself at Sakit and began to collect the land revenue, and enforced his claims

by hanging up by the heels those who refused payment, and destroying their houses. Durjan Singh, a brother of Tej Singh the rebel Raja of Maịnpuri, came to the aid of the Chauhan agent with about five hundred followers, and in the middle of August they went to Manikpur and burned and plundered it. Towards the end of July Hasan Mirza came to Etah as tahsildar on behalf of the rebel Nawab of Farrukhabad and established himself at Aliganj, where he took possession of the records. On the 15th July one Azim-ullah Khan, who had been dismissed from his office of police inspector by Mr. Bramly for refusing to stay in Patiali his headquarters, came there in the same capacity on behalf of the Farrukhabad Nawab. In August Asad Ali Khan the zamindar of Sarawal went to Kasganj as tahsildar of the Nawab, remaining until the end of September, when he was frightened away by the arrival of General Greathead's force at Akrabad. He did not return till the 2nd of December, when he signalised his entry by the cold-blooded murder of the aged and blind Chaube pensioner, Ghansyam Das.

Attempt to restore order.

At the end of August Mr. Cocks, who had been appointed special commissioner of Etah and Aligarh, was induced to entrust the management of the neighbourhood of Kasganj to the Afghan Daud Khan of Bhikampur in the Aligarh district. Daud Khan took up his quarters there, but with the characteristic treachery of his race he made common cause with the rebels, and pretended to Mr. Cocks that he was unable to drive out the Nawab's agent, Asad Ali Khan, who was really weaker in followers and influence than himself. Mr. Cocks, with a small force under Major Eld, visited the district on his way to Kachhlaghat, but did not interfere with the Nawab's force at Patiali. On the 18th October Mr. Churcher went as deputy collector to Etah, and with the help of Tej Singh of Pithanpur and other loyal zamindars occupied the abandoned fort of Damar Singh and maintained himself there for some weeks. Mr. Churcher joined Colonel Riddell's force about the middle of November leaving the district in the hands of Najf Khan the munsif and the revenue officers, by whom it was held until Mr. C. J. Daniell took charge in January 1858. At the end of November 1857 Mr. J. C. Wilson with a small party advanced to Soron with a view to getting information

of Christian refugees who were known to be waiting to obtain an opportunity for escape from confinement in Rohilkhand. The advance of the rebels from Patiali to Sahawar obliged Mr. Wilson to fall back upon Gangiri. Such serious rumours of the condition of Etah had reached the authorities at Bulandshahr that, though badly off themselves, they resolved to make an effort to relieve the district. Colonel Farquhar, who was in military command, advised a move in the direction of Kasganj with a view to holding the rebels in check until the arrival of a column which was then being formed at Delhi and Meerut under Colonel Seaton to convey a quantity of stores and ammunition for the use of the troops at Cawnpore.

Seaton's advance.

This small force started early in December by Pindrawal to Atrauli and thence to Chharra, a small village close to the residence of Daud Khan of Bhikampur, of whom Mr. Sapte wrote: "This man's conduct towards us was throughout most suspicious. He refused to furnish us with any kind of supplies, and for two days we were put to great inconvenience; and his personal bearing towards us was disrespectful in the extreme." Though close to Kasganj, and though his followers were concerned in the murder of Ghansyam Das, he pretended ignorance of everything connected with it and of the presence of the rebels at Kasganj. While Colonel Farquhar was at Chharra intelligence was received of Colonel Seaton's intention to march on Kasganj by Akrabad and Sikandra Rao so as to take Kasganj in flank; and he requested that the Bulandshahr force should engage the attention of the rebels, so as to divert their suspicion from the approach of his main force. Colonel Farquhar thereupon marched next day to Gangiri within ten miles of Kasganj, informing Colonel Seaton of his move and of the intention of the rebels to attack him. Colonel Seaton changed his route and came down straight on Gangiri by Jalali. "The conduct of the headmen of Gangiri", wrote Mr. Sapte, "attracted our special notice; on our reaching the village, they came out to meet us, and then, after waiting but a few minutes, wished to leave and kept asking us to allow them to go. We thought it better to keep them in camp, but I have every reason to believe that it was from this village that news was sent to the rebels of the smallness of our force, the villagers

being then in ignorance of the proximity of Colonel Seaton's column. Early the next morning Colonel Seaton arrived and encamped on the east side of the Nim Nadi, two miles in advance of our camp. About noon of that day we were surprised by the sudden appearance of a cloud of cavalry close to the camp. The men turned out, and after a splendid charge from the Carabineers, in which three gallant officers of the Carabineers lost their lives, succeeded in driving the rebels before them at all points, capturing three of their guns and killing some three hundred. The cowards thought to have been opposed by Colonel Farquhar's small detachment, and great was their astonishment at finding a large army ready to receive them; they soon found out their mistake and sought to save their worthless lives by an ignominious flight. We went with Colonel Seaton's column next day to Kasganj, which we found evacuated. Colonel Seaton followed his enemy up on the 15th and directed us to march up the bank of the river from Kachhlaghat, and destroy every boat we could find. Major Stokes and Lieutenant T. P. Smith of the horse artillery succeeded in burning four boats at Kachhla, notwithstanding the presence of a large rebel force on the opposite side." The enemy's force, which was under the command of Ismail Khan, son of Walidad Khan of Malagarh, fled to Kasganj, and thence by Sahawar to Patiali, where another action took place in which they lost all their guns, to the number of thirteen, and all their ammunition and baggage. The rebel force was thus completely dispersed and the remains of it retreated to Farrukhabad. Colonel Seaton returned to Kasganj, and crossing the Kali Nadi marched by Etah to Mainpuri, which was occupied by his force after a brief resistance about the 26th December. Occasional bodies of troops marched through the district subsequently, and in March 1858 General Kenny's force took up a position at Patiali which commanded the whole river-face throughout the district. By the middle of 1858 order was completely restored, and from that time forward the history of the district has been quite uneventful.

GAZETTEER

OF

ETAH.

DIRECTORY.

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ALIGANJ, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This town in 27°29′N. and 79°11′E. is situated on the Etah-Farrukhabad road 33 miles from Etah, and in 1901 contained 5,835 inhabitants. Notwithstanding its comparatively large population Aliganj is only an agricultural village possessing little trade and deriving its only importance from the fact that it is the headquarters of a tahsil. It is connected with the Thana Dariaoganj railway station by a metalled road 9 miles in length, and another metalled road is now being constructed to Etah. The shops in the bazar are for the most part built of mud, but there are a few large brick houses, the residences of the wealthier traders. The new tahsil, a modern brick building, and the school are in the principal bazar, while the police station and travellers' sarai lie on the road running from east to west across the bazar. The village lands cover a total area of 2,674 acres, of which 1,122 are cultivated, and the land revenue assessment is Rs. 3,075. The zamindars are Pathans, of whom Hamid-ullah Khan, *alias* Maddu Khan, is the most prominent. The market days are Monday, Thursday and Saturday, when some business is done in grain and cotton which are collected here for export by the railway.

The town was founded in the eighteenth century by Yaqut Khan, *alias* Khan Bahadur Khan, a eunuch in the employ of the Farrukhabad Nawab, who was appointed *amil* of Azamnagar. He built the large mud fort to the south of the town and on it a massive tomb of block kankar to the memory of the Musalman saint Hamza Shahid. Two towers of the tomb, with the connecting wall and a gateway facing the north, still remain standing. The date of the building of the fort is given in an inscription engraved on a slab of stone as 1747. Yaqut Khan formed the township by taking land from five villages and settling people of all classes on it. He was killed in 1748 at the battle of Dori, where the Nawab of Farrukhabad was defeated by the

Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan. The favourite elephant of Khan Bahadur Khan, though itself badly wounded, brought his corpse to the foot of the fort wall, where it fell dead. Khan Bahadur Khan was buried in a plain tomb in the middle of an enclosure which lies beneath the fort and is surrounded by a low wall of block kankar. At the foot of his tomb is a mound which tradition alleges to be the burial-place of his elephant. This tomb with its well-preserved enclosing walls and the handsome frontage of the ruined tomb standing on the high mound above forms the chief feature of interest in Aliganj. Two unpretending mosques, one to the north and the other to the south of the town, were built by the founder, whose successors are still in possession of the proprietary rights in the neighbouring lands.

Aliganj was formerly a municipality but was in 1890 reduced to the status of an Act XX town. In 1909 it contained 1,529 houses, of which 815 were assessed to taxation, and the income from the house-tax was Rs. 1,180, giving an incidence of Re. 1-7-1 per assessed house and Re. 0-3-2 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 1,515. The expenditure for the same year was Rs. 1,324 of which the chief items were Rs. 835 for the upkeep of the town police force, Rs. 302 for the maintenance of the conservancy staff and Rs. 62 for local public improvements. The Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

ALIGANJ *tahsil.*

This tahsil occupies the eastern portion of the Etah district, and comprises the parganas of Nidhpur, Patiali, Azamnagar and Barna, of each of which a full description will be found elsewhere. The Ganges forms the boundary of the tahsil on the north and north-east, separating it from the Budaun district. On the east it marches with Farrukhabad; on the south is Mainpuri, with the Kali Nadi as the dividing line; and on the west are the Etah and Kasganj tahsils. The total area is 332,836 acres or 520 square miles. The tahsil is in the charge of a full-powered deputy magistrate and collector, assisted by the tahsildar of Aliganj in criminal and revenue work. Original civil jurisdiction

is exercised by the munsif of Etah, appeals being heard by the judge of Aligarh.

There are four police stations within the tahsil: at Aliganj, Jaithra, Patiali and Kadirganj, and the tahsil boundaries are now conterminous with these circles. The tahsil suffered more severely than any other in the district during the wet decade between 1881 and 1891, the population falling from 193,800 to 161,994. The next ten years however witnessed a remarkable recovery, the numbers having risen by 1901 to 205,560—a net gain in the 20 years of 11,760. Hindus, as elsewhere in the district, preponderate enormously, only 24,373 persons being returned as Musalmans, while of other religions there were only 1,719 representatives made up of 23 Jains, 631 Christians, 771 Aryas and 86 Sikhs.

The most numerous Hindu caste was that of the Chamars with 24,846 members, Kachhis coming next with 22,433, while Ahirs and Rajputs, with 21,784 and 20,772 respectively, were not far behind. Brahmans numbered 14,280, Lodhas 11,989 and Gadariyas 9,121, no other caste having a membership approaching 1,000 and only Banias and Kahars having more than 5,000. Shaikhs to the number of 6,098 made up a quarter of the Musalman population, the only other castes of whom more than 1,000 representatives were found being Pathans, 4,250; Rajputs, 2,364; Faqirs, 2,065 and Dhunas, 1,407. The exclusively agricultural character of the tahsil is well brought out by the census figures for occupation, which show that no less than 80 per cent. of the population rely directly on the cultivation of the soil for their living as zamindars, tenants, field labourers or farm-servants.

AMANPUR, *pargana* SAHAWAR, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This small Act XX town, in 27°43′N. and 78°48′E., is about 13 miles distant from Etah. Its population in 1901 numbered 2,811 persons. This town lost much of its importance when the Grand Trunk Road was opened and traffic consequently fell off on the Delhi-Farrukhabad road on which it was situated, while the opening of the railway gave the final blow to its trade, which was principally in cotton, grain and indigo. Amanpur police station has just been abolished. The town contains a pound,

post-office and school. The total area of the village lands is only 541 acres, of which 454 are cultivated and pay Rs. 735 in land revenue. The village is owned by Shankar Lal and other Banias. There are 613 houses, of which 345 were assessed in 1908-09 at Rs. 662. The incidence of the house-tax is Re. 0-14-8 on each assessed house and Re. 0-3-9 on each head of population. The total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 803-14-0. The expenditure for the same year was Rs. 699-4-9, the chief items being Rs. 429-8-6 for the upkeep of the police force, Rs. 174 for the pay of the conservancy staff, and Rs. 30 for local public improvements. As in other Act XX towns of the district, the United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force.

ATRANJI KHERA, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

Atranji Khera is now only a barren mound, covered with bricks which the neighbouring villagers through superstition refrain from removing or using for any purpose. It lies in 27°42′N. and 78°44′E., 10 miles north of Etah, 15 miles south of Soron and 43 miles north-west of Sankisa as the crow flies, but 50 miles from it by road. The name Atranji occurs with Sikandarpur as the title of one of the parganas of Kanauj in the *Ain-i-Akbari* in the form Sikandarpur-Atreji. Sikandarpur, now called Sikandrabad, is a village on the left bank of the Kali Nadi opposite Atranji. But little is known about its early history, though many of the oldest families in the district claim it as their home. According to local tradition, before the invasion of the Musalmans the ancestor of the celebrated Chakarwarti Raja Ben built a strong fort which continued until his time to be the headquarters of the raj. When Shahab-ud-din Ghori in 1193 after the defeat of Raja Prithiraj of Delhi demanded the submission of the neighbouring chiefs, Raja Ben refused to render allegiance and defeated several expeditions sent against him. At length Shahab-ud-din Ghori took the field in person and defeated the Raja in a great battle, after which fort and city were utterly destroyed with their inhabitants. Since that time the *khera* has remained uninhabited and desolate. At the foot of the mound is the tomb of Hazrat Hasan who was killed on the side of the Musalmans. This is still in good repair and is

sheltered by a *bargad* tree measuring 32 feet in circumference 5 feet from the ground.

The *khera* is 3,960 feet long, 1,500 broad and 65 feet high. Coins of all sorts are frequently found on it, but though the popular belief is that great treasures lie buried in the mound few persons will now venture to dig there either for coins or for brick or stone.

General Cunningham would identify Atranji Khera with the site of Pilo-chan-na, visited by the Chinese Buddhist traveller Huen Tsang in the 7th century. The city was then two miles in circuit and contained a great stupa of Asoka and several monasteries and temples. The identification is based on the fact that Atranji Khera is the only large place, besides Soron, of any antiquity in this part of the country and also on its distance from Sankisa.

AULAI *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Aulai is situated on the northern border of the district and lies between the Ganges and its old bed the Burhganga. The former separates it on the north from the Budaun district, and the latter forms the boundary along most of its southern and western length, except for a narrow strip on the north-west where it marches with Faizpur Badaria, and a few villages on the south-west which lie on the other side of the stream. Pargana Nidhpur bounds it on the east. Physically the tract is homogeneous with pargana Faizpur Badaria, but it has been more fortunate in escaping Gangetic diluvion than that pargana. The total area is 36,411 acres, or nearly 57 square miles. Of this 17,800 acres were under cultivation in the year of record, 1309 *fasli* or 1901-02, only 504 being irrigated, almost entirely from wells, generally of the shallow *kachha* type worked by a *dhenkli*. Only 10 masonry wells exist in the whole pargana. 12,714 acres were returned as culturable and only 5,736 as barren, but some two-thirds of the former ought to come under the latter heading, as representing soils far too inferior in quality to repay the expense of cultivation. One hundred and sixty-one acres were planted with groves. The *rabi* area, which at the 1873 settlement was scarcely more than half the *kharif* area, is now 45 per cent. of the whole and the twice-cropped

area has grown from 5 acres to 2,085. Wheat constitutes about 80 per cent. of the *rabi* harvest and nearly all the residue consists of barley, though a small amount of gram and peas and poppy is also grown. Sugarcane covers the largest area in the *kharif*, occupying nearly a quarter of the whole. *Bajra* and *juar* are grown to nearly the same extent, while maize has in a great measure ousted cotton, which was once the most important crop, but now takes only fifth place with 1,333 acres, or about one-eighth of the whole *kharif* area. Only about half as much rice is grown as formerly though it still covers 499 acres.

The principal cultivating castes are Thakurs, Brahmans, Kachhis, Chamars and Gadariyas. Forty-eight per cent. of the holdings are in the hands of occupancy tenants at an average rental of Rs. 3·46 per acre. Thakurs, the old zamindars, are still the leading proprietors and own a third of the whole pargana, though they have lost 25 per cent. of their possessions during the settlement period. Their losses are almost exactly equalled by the Banias' gains, and the latter caste now owns 25 per cent. of the pargana. Other gainers are the Kayasths, who now hold a little more than the Banias, and the Musalman *raises* of the Aligarh district, who now hold about 13 per cent., nearly all acquired by recent purchase. The Gardner family, who once had a considerable property in this pargana, have lost it all. The greater part of the land is in the hands of poor coparcenary communities, most of them embarrassed : 11,392 acres are hold in single *zamindari* by 24 owners, 11,141 acres in joint *zamindari* by 193 owners, 10,735 acres held in perfect *pattidari* are divided among 196 co-sharers and 2,983 acres in imperfect *pattidari* among 133.

The pargana is a rural tract without towns or manufactures. A weekly market is held at Baznagar, but most of the produce goes outside the pargana to the neighbouring marts of Soron and Kasganj which are both situated on the metalled highway that runs diagonally across the pargana, connecting Budaun with the Grand Trunk Road. It meets the Ganges at Kachhlaghat where there is a bridge of boats or a ferry according to the season. The other roads are mere village tracks. The new railway from Soron to Bareilly crossing the Ganges at Kachhlaghat skirts the western border of this pargana.

In the reign of Akbar Aulai formed a portion of *mahal* Budaun in *dastur* and *sarkar* Budaun, and remained in that district till 1845, when it was transferred permanently to the Etah district.

AWA, *pargana and tahsil* JALESAR.

This town, in 27°26.'40." N. and 78°31.'22." E., lies in the eastern corner of the Jalesar tahsil, 13 miles west of Etah and 12 miles east of Jalesar. In 1901 the population numbered 5,467 persons and the total area was 3,126 acres, of which 1,371 were cultivated. The zamindar is the Raja of Awa, who pays Rs. 6,100 as land revenue on the village. The town is provided with watch and ward under Act XX of 1856, but is a small place with little trade and only noted as the residence of the Rajas of Awa, whose fort, situated about a quarter of a mile to the north-east of the town, is a formidable stronghold built of brick and mud and surrounded by a deep moat nearly a mile in circumference. It stands out prominently from the flat plain which surrounds it with immense stretches of *usar*. The lands around the town are exceedingly fertile, producing among other crops a kind of tobacco renowned for its excellence. The town contains a police station, pound, dispensary, post-office and a tahsili school, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Saturday. At the festivals of the Ram Lila and the Holi it is the scene of a considerable fair. Awa is administered under the Act above named and in 1908-09 contained 992 houses, of which 544 were assessed to a house-tax which produced in that year an income of Rs. 918-6-0. This gives an incidence of Re. 1-11 per assessed house and Re. 0-5-2 per head of population. The total receipts, including the balance of the previous year, were Rs. 1,067-12-4, while the expenditure for the year was Rs. 902-4-4, the principal items being Rs. 611-7-11 on account of police charges, Rs. 130-8-0 for the maintenance of the conservancy staff, and Rs. 56-15-3 on account of local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force here as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

AZAMNAGAR *pargana, tahsil* ALIGANJ.

Pargana Azamnagar occupies the south-eastern portion of the Etah district, and is bounded on the east by the Farrukhabad

district; on the south and south-west by the Mainpuri district, from which it is separated by the Kali Nadi; on the west by parganas Barna and Sirhpura; and on the north by pargana Patiali, while at the north-east corner flows the Burhganga for a few miles. The total area of the pargana is 161,940 acres, or 256 square miles.

The tract divides itself naturally into three distinct areas—the lowland or *tarai* of the Kali Nadi, the upland, and the Burhganga *tarai*.

The bed of the Kali Nadi is narrow, having an average width of about a quarter of a mile. Between the stream and the foot of the high bank there is usually a tract of rich soil, at a slightly lower level than the river bank, very suitable to the growth of sugarcane but liable to swamping. The rise to the upland is always well marked; but there is nothing in the nature of a cliff, the ascent usually taking the form of a series of sandy undulations or steppes. The valley of the Burhganga is broader, running up to as much as two miles, and its high bank is a sharply defined cliff cut into ravines. At the foot is a considerable tract of rich soil, which however deteriorates as the distance from the cliff increases, soon becoming a very thin layer over pure sand. This is known as *phatka* and extends almost to the Burhganga. Along the edge of that stream, and in depressions leading away from it, rich soil is to be found, growing sugarcane and rice without irrigation, but the whole valley is liable to flooding.

The upland is almost uniformly sandy. The crest of the high bank of each river is marked by a ridge of nearly pure sand forming a belt which varies in width according to the distance between the two rivers, widening out as they approach one another, and narrowing as they separate. But except in the extreme east of the pargana the surface is everywhere uneven, containing numerous clayey depressions, all more or less liable to waterlogging. With a general rise in the level the soil invariably turns to *bhur*. Small *usar* plains are common, and much of the land is infected with *reh*.

Of the total area 105,885 acres were under cultivation in the year of record, 1308 *fasli* or 1900-01, but practically every village

is liable to great variations of cultivation. Only 14,734 acres were irrigated, rather more thana third of this area receiving water from the Fatehgarh branch canal which crosses the north of the pargana. For the rest wells are the main source of supply. In the *dumat* tract to the east the subsoil is firm and *kachha* wells are readily made, giving an abundant supply of water. But in the other parts not reached by the canal the subsoil is light and sandy, and though *kachha* wells are made without difficulty, they are of the shallow percolation type, largely dependent on the rainfall and liable to fail when most needed. The culturable area is returned as 42,582 acres, but considerably more than half of this consists of waste land incapable of profitable cultivation.

Groves cover 2,726 acres, and 10,188 acres are returned as utterly barren. There has been a substantial improvement in the style of cultivation of recent years. The *rabi* area, which was considerably less than the *kharif* area at the last settlement, now exceeds it by nearly a fifth, the respective figures being 60,956 and 51,467 acres. The increase is mainly due to wheat, which, alone or in combination, now occupies 77 per cent. of the *rabi* area. Barley is next in importance, but shows a falling-off since 1873. Poppy has increased twenty-fold and now covers 2,676 acres. *Bajra*, though its area has diminished, still constitutes rather more than half the *kharif* harvest, and another quarter consists of *juar*. Maize is now grown to a much greater extent than formerly. Rice has also increased, but sugarcane and cotton have both diminished, the former on account of the destruction of much *tarai* land in the Kali Nadi floods of 1884 and subsequent years. The pargana is fortunate in its classes of cultivators. Kachhis hold 14 per cent. of the total area and Ahirs and other cultivators of medium quality 40 per cent. Nineteen per cent. is held by Thakurs, and only 11 per cent. by Brahmans, the worst cultivators in the district. The all-round average size of each cultivator's holding in 1902 was 2·6 acres. This shows a 21 per cent. decrease in size since the 1873 settlement. Rents on the other hand had in 1902 gone up by 39 per cent. in the case of occupancy holdings and 22 per cent. in the case of non-occupancy land, now standing at Rs. 2·89 and Rs. 2·38 per acre for each class of tenure respectively.

The comparatively low incidence of the non-occupancy rental is due to the abandonment during the period of depression of a great deal of inferior occupancy land, which has since been taken up by non-occupancy tenants. The pargana is mainly in the hands of small proprietors, the total number of landlords being 8,991 and their average holding only 18 acres. Imperfect *pattidari* properties cover 29 per cent. of the whole area, joint and single *zamindari* about 22 per cent. each, and perfect *pattidari* a little less, while 4,041 acres are held in *bhaiyachara* tenure. The largest resident landowners are Chaudhris Gulab Singh and Rustam Singh of Rupdhani, who hold three entire villages and shares in others. The Rani of Rampur, a descendant of the Kanauj royal family, has now only three villages remaining. Scattered villages are owned by large non-resident landlords such as the Raja of Awa, the *raises* of Kasganj and Sarnau, Shaikh Wajih-ud-din Haidar of Bareilly, and others. Thakurs are still the predominant caste, though their holding has diminished from 50 to 41 per cent. of the total area. Next come Muhammadans with 17 per cent.; Brahmans have gained slightly and now hold 13 per cent.; and Marwaris and Banias, who formerly held only 3 per cent., now own 8½ per cent. Ahirs too have extended their ownership from 2½ to nearly 4 per cent. of the total area. The only market in the pargana is Aliganj the tahsil headquarters; but it now does little business, most of the exports going off to Ganj Dundwara on the railway. There are two railway stations within the pargana, one at Thana Dariaoganj and the other at Rudain. The latter, though named after a village in Farrukhabad, is actually situated within the lands of mauza Ratanpur Fatiyanpur in this pargana. Except for the railway communications are bad. Metalled roads connect Aliganj with Rudain and Thana Dariaoganj, and a pukka road is being constructed to Etah. With these exceptions all the roads are unmetalled, sandy and bad, especially in the south of the pargana. Azamnagar was formerly a *tappa* or subdivision of *mahal* Shamsabad in *sarkar* Kanauj and *subah* Agra, and was the headquarters of an *amil*. At the cession it was made a separate pargana and attached to Farrukhabad, from which it was in 1845 transferred to Etah,

receiving in 1846 twelve additional villages from Farrukhabad.

BADHOLA, *pargana* NIDHPUR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village, in 27°40′N. and 79°10′E., contained in 1901 a population of 3,501 persons. It covers a total area of 4,916 acres, of which 2,756 are cultivated, and pays Rs. 4,265 in land revenue. The zamindars are mostly Thakurs, Baldeo Singh son of Lacham Singh being the most important. There is a school in the village and a market is held every week on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

BARAI, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

Barai lies nine miles from Etah in 27°39′N. and 78°36′E. and had in 1901 a population numbering 3,248 persons. The total area of the village is 5,401 acres, of which 2,290 are under the plough, and it is assessed at Rs. 6,825. Formerly one of the Chauhan strongholds the village now belongs to Thakur Kushalpal Singh of Phariha-Kotla, a Jadon Thakur. The remains of a large earthen fort are still to be seen on a hillock to the east of the village.

BARNA *pargana, tahsil* ALIGANJ.

Pargana Barna is bounded on the west and south by the Kali Nadi which separates it from pargana Sonhar and the Mainpuri district. On the north lies pargana Sirhpura and on the east Azamnagar. The total area is 24,316 acres, or 38 square miles. Of this 19,120 acres were under cultivation in 1902, 3,358 acres being irrigated chiefly from the canal. Wells though easily made are for the most part of the shallow percolation type, the only one possible in the sandy subsoil, and are liable to run dry when most needed. The *rabi* area, which at the 1873 settlement was rather smaller than the *kharif*, was in 1902 larger by nearly 2,000 acres. The increase is mainly due to extended cultivation of wheat which now constitutes 80 per cent. of the *rabi* harvest. There has been a great increase in poppy, but both barley and gram and peas have fallen off. Rather more than half the *kharif* area is still occupied by *bajra*,

though *juar* has now increased to 30 per cent. of the whole. Sugarcane and maize have both added largely to their old acreage, but cotton has sunk to less than half its former amount. Double-cropping, which was before almost unknown, is now extensively practised. The greater part of the pargana is held by castes who are of poor quality as cultivators. Ahirs, and others of about the same moderate capacity, hold 40 per cent.; Brahmans, who are quite the worst cultivators in the district, have 25 per cent.; Thakurs, who are indifferent farmers at the best, have 11 per cent.; while Kachhis have only 6 per cent. There has been a considerable decrease in the size of holdings during the last 30 years accompanied by a remarkable rise in rents. The average holding was in 1902 of 3·5 acres or 47 per cent. smaller than at the 1873 settlement while the rental incidence has risen by 37 per cent. in the case of occupancy, and 57 in that of non-occupancy holdings, standing at Rs. 2·43 and Rs. 2·76 for each class of tenure respectively.

The pargana is mainly owned by small proprietors. There are 1,134 land holders in all with an average of 21 acres apiece. More than a third of the pargana is held in perfect *pattidari*, and nearly as much in single *zamindari*, while joint *zamindari* covers 18 per cent. and imperfect *pattidari* 14 per cent. Brahmans are the predominant proprietary caste, the pargana having originally been given to them in *shankalp* by the Rathor chief of Sonhar. They hold nearly 36 per cent. of the land and have slightly increased their possessions during the settlement period. Next to them come Kayasths, in whose hands is the money-lending of the pargana. This caste has increased its holdings from 19 to 27 per cent; Ahirs, the Chaudhris of Rupdhani, own 24 per cent., and have likewise increased their holdings. Thakurs have as in other parganas lost ground, their percentage having fallen from 16 to 11; and Musalmans who once owned 8 per cent. have now only a nominal share.

The only market is at Dhumri, and little business is don there, most of the produce going off to Ganj Dundwara for export. Dhumri is connected with Sirhpura, Patiali and Mainpuri by unmetalled roads, and the new metalled road under construction between Etah and Aliganj passes through the north of

the pargana. The sandy soils of the pargana are ill-adapted for unmetalled highways, and the metalling of the road to the railway at Patiali is very desirable. Barna is an old Akbari pargana belonging to *sarkar* Kanauj and *subah* Agra, and formerly included Sonhar.

BASUNDRA, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

This village, in 27° 29′ N. and 78° 35′ E., is ten miles distant from Etah, and contained in 1901 a population of 2,033 persons. The total area of the village is 1,005 acres, of which 592 are cultivated, and the land revenue assessed on it is Rs. 1,850. The *zamindar* is a Thakur, Kunwar Ram Chandra Singh of Pochon whose estate is under the court of wards in Aligarh. Close at hand lies Khera Basundra, or Basimdhara, one of the old Chauhan strongholds, which still contains the remains of a large mud fort. Basundra lies on the Etah-Tundla road and was once the headquarters of a police circle, but now contains nothing of more importance than a village school.

BHARGAIN, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village lies on the bank of the Burhganga 33 miles to the north-east of Etah in 27°37′N. and 79°11′E. Its population in 1901 was 3,718 and it covers an area of 1,087 acres, of which 792 are cultivated, and is assessed at Rs. 925. The village is said to derive its name from one Bhargav or Bhargahana, a *rishi* or saint of remote antiquity, and local legend relates that it was once the scene of a great battle, thus accounting for the large number of Muhammadan tombs existing in the vicinity. There are two shrines (*dargah*) here, one of which is the tomb of a former *pir* of the Chishtis, and the other of some unknown person, but in the lapse of time it has been forgotten in which of the two the Chishti lies buried. The inhabitants of Bhargain are mostly Bhattis, a low and troublesome subdivision of Muhammadans. The village was given after the Mutiny to one Asa Singh, but has passed out of the possession of his descendants into the hands of a Bina, Bharat Indar. It contains a school but no other public building.

BILRAM, *pargana* BILRAM, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

Bilram is the chief place in the pargana of the same name.

It lies 19 miles to the north of Etah and about 4 miles west of Kasganj in 27°49′N. and 78°38′E. The lands belonging to the town cover a total area of 1,128 acres, of which 909 are cultivated, and are assessed to land revenue at Rs. 2,435. The zamindar is Kunwar Sheoraj Singh, a Kayasth, the grandson of the late Raja Dilsukh Rai. He himself lives at Kasganj, but a considerable number of his relatives live at Bilram. According to local tradition the town was founded by Chauhan Thakurs some 600 years ago. The Raja of Bilram was attacked by Shahzada Masaud bin Muhammad, but the Muhammadan army was defeated and the prince, his wazir, his paymaster and many nobles slain. The emperor then attacked Bilram in person, killed the Raja and destroyed the town, those Chauhans only being spared who submitted and accepted Islam. Bilram long remained unoccupied and desolate, until at length Muhammad Makhdum Chishti, a faqir, came to the jungle, which had grown over the deserted site, and took up his residence there, persuading the people of the neighbouring villages to build a new town on the old *khera*. Some remains of the Chauhan Raja's fort are still visible, as also the tombs of the prince, the wazir and the bakhshi. On the head-stone of the wazir's tomb the words "Khaluddin Babakr Darweshi" can yet be read, but most of the inscriptions on the hundreds of tombs beside it have, by lapse of time, become undecipherable. Within the village is the tomb of Muhammad Makhdum Salahuddin Chishti, which owing to its raised site is visible from a great distance on all sides. The road into Kasganj is being metalled. Bilram is now a sleepy little place with little or no trade, but the numerous remains of old buildings which are to be found all round the present site show that in the past it must have been a town of considerable size and importance. Bilram contains a cattle-pound and village school, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Sunday.

The town is administered under the Mufussil Town Police Act (XX of 1856) and in 1908-09 contained 1,017 houses, of which 313 were assessed to a house-tax. This produced an income of Rs. 700, which gave an incidence of Rs. 2-3-9 per assessed house and Re. 0-2-5 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 917-1-7.

The expenditure for the same year was Rs. 771-7-4, the chief items being Rs. 492-8-3 on account of police charges, Rs. 130-8-0 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment, and Rs. 75 for local public improvements. As in other Act XX towns of the district, the Sanitation Act is in force.

BILRAM *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Bilram is bounded on the north by pargana Pachlana; on the west by the Aligarh district; on the south by pargana Marehra, and on the east by parganas Sahawar, Soron and Faizpur Badaria. The total area is 66,079 acres or 103 square miles. The Kali Nadi runs through the south of the pargana from west to east with a strip of *tarai* on either side of very varying character, sometimes overlaid with sand and sometimes good and fertile, though everywhere it has deteriorated since the prohibition against the damming of the river has practically put a stop to irrigation. A few villages in the extreme north border on the Burhganga and are therefore extremely rich and fertile though inferior to their neighbours further north. From the Kali Nadi *tarai* a ridge of broken ground divides the uplands which consist of *dumat* with *bhur* hills here and there. Formerly an extensive tract of sand stretched across the pargana from west to east, but the canal and its distributaries have here immensely improved the character of the soil, which now grows fine crops of every description. Of the total area no less than 56,004 acres, or nearly 85 per cent., were under cultivation in 1902, while of the culturable waste, amounting to 4,686 acres, 1,999 acres consisted of old and new fallow, 1,013 acres were planted with groves and only 4,203 acres were recorded as hopelessly barren.

Of the cultivated area 20,599 acres or more than one-third are irrigated, for 7,583 acres of which the canals provide the water—an increase of 6,212 acres since the 1873 settlement. Nor has there been any marked diminution in the area irrigated from wells. The *rabi* area, which was less than two-fifths of the cultivated area at the last settlement, is now more than half. Of the *rabi* crops wheat is by far the most important, occupying, alone or in combination, 21,906 acres, or three-quarters of the *rabi* area.

Most of the remainder is sown with barley by itself or along with other crops. The double-cropped area has risen from 196 acres to 8,806 during the last thirty years, and with it the area under maize, which is usually followed by wheat in the *rabi*. More *bajra* is cultivated than *juar*, but the area under *juar* is gradually increasing at the expense of the *bajra*. They now cover 10,947 and 8,029 acres respectively, as compared with 18,173 and 4,564 acres at the last settlement. A fair amount of cotton is grown but the increasing practice of double-cropping has told against it. Sugarcane covers only 871 acres and is practically confined to the Burhganga *tarai*. The best cultivators are the Kachhis, Lodhas and Muraos and the intensive cultivation round Kasganj affords a good example of their methods, which are being imitated in the surrounding villages. The Thakur varies very much as a cultivator, while the Brahman is rarely a success. Sixty-five per cent. of the tenants' area is held by occupancy tenants and 32 per cent. by non-occupancy tenants, the average incidence of the rents being Rs. 3·72 per acre for occupancy tenants and Rs. 4·9 for the others. The largest landholders are the Musalmans, who still own 43·34 per cent. of the whole, though they have lost considerably since the last settlement, when they owned 52·07 per cent. Thakurs come next, but they too are losing and now hold only 15·63 instead of 19·14 per cent. Banias, Kayasths and Brahmans have all added to their possessions, while Europeans, represented by the Gardner family, have lost nearly four-fifths of theirs. The old headquarters of their estate is Chhaoni, but there are now several branches of the family, few of whom keep up European traditions. Kuar Sheoraj Singh, the principal Kayasth landowner, has had the bulk of his property sold up at the suit of the Raja of Awa. Besides single and joint *zamindari*, which cover 18,647 and 22,948 acres respectively, there are 10,051 acres held in perfect *pattidari* and 14,433 acres in imperfect *pattidari*, the average holding of each proprietor under the latter form of tenure being only 16 acres.

The most important place in the pargana is Kasganj, which is the largest town in the district. It is a municipality with a population of 20,508 persons and is increasing in importance, while a still greater impetus may be expected now that the railway to Budaun and Bareilly is completed. It is surrounded by highly

cultivated fields of the *kachiana* type and possesses an extensive bazar. Bilram is a village with 4,506 inhabitants, and there are several other large villages, but none of them of any great importance. The pargana is very well off in regard to facilities for communication. The Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway passes through the pargana, crossing the Kali Nadi just before reaching Kasganj, and a branch line connects Kasganj with Soron, Budaun and Bareilly. Metalled roads lead from Kasganj to Bareilly, *viâ* Soron and Budaun, and to Muttra *viâ* Sikandra Rao. There are also the metalled roads from Kasganj to Etah and Bilram, and there are a number of unmetalled roads as well. Bilram was an old Akbari pargana included in *dastur* Marehra, *sarkar* Koil and *subah* Agra. It was transferred from Budaun to Etah in 1845 and has suffered little change since the cession.

BILSAR, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village is now only of archæological interest, having been identified in 1877 by General Cunningham * with the town called Pi-lo-chan-na by the Chinese pilgrim Huen Tsang, and also with the town variously called Talsanda and Nandana by the Musalman historians. The name is also written Bilsand.

Huen Tsang describes Pi-lo-chan-na as a city two miles in circuit, inhabited chiefly by Brahman heretics, but containing a few Buddhists and two monasteries with 200 monks. In one of these monasteries in the middle of the town was a stupa 100 feet in height said to have been built by Asoka, on the spot where Buddha had preached for seven days. There were also five Brahman temples. The present village is built over a number of ancient mounds and its whole area is covered with the broken bricks of former habitations. In the centre of it is a great mound 33 feet in height, probably the site of Asoka's stupa, though General Cunningham's excavations brought to light nothing beyond a number of large bricks which may have originally formed part of the stupa but had almost certainly been used for mediæval houses. Excavations made in some of the other mounds showed that they were in all probability the sites

* Archæological Survey, Vol. XI.

of the five Brahman temples, but the most interesting discovery was made in a mound a little to the south-west of the great central one, and consisted in four pillars of which two were monoliths bearing inscriptions of Kumara Gupta, dated in the year 96 of the Gupta era, corresponding to 415 A.D. Of the Gupta temple of which these pillars must have formed a part little or no trace was found, excavation being prevented by the village houses on the one side and rendered hopeless on the other by the existence of a deeply-cut road.

Bilsar is referred to in the *Tabakat-i-Nasiri* as possessing a very strong fort vying with the wall of Alexander. It was in 1247 the scene of a desperate conflict between the imperial troops under Balban and a body of "infidel Hindus," but was captured after two days' fighting and its defenders "sent to hell." These Hindus were probably Rathor Rajputs, as Bilsar was until three or four hundred years ago the residence of the Rathor Raja of Rampur, and a curious legend is related to account for the move to Rampur. A former Raja built a fort on the high central mound of the village and his *baithak,* or out-door throne, overlooked the house of a Brahman named Puran Mal. This annoyed the Brahman, who appealed to the Raja to change the position of the *baithak,* and, on his request being refused, poisoned himself with opium, whereupon his body turned to a blue colour like indigo. His ghost became a malignant spirit *(bir)* and caused the death of several members of the Raja's family, and lastly of the Raja himself, after which the Raja's son went to Rampur, where the family has since dwelt. The Brahman's spirit is still worshipped under the name of Brahm-Rakshas by the people of Bilsar, who seek to appease his wrath with offerings of flowers and sweetmeats. Numerous fragments of sculpture are collected on the *chabutra,* or shrine, which is the usual square platform situated on the highest point of the mound in the north-western corner.

BORRAH KALAN, *pargana and tahsil* JALESAR.

This village, in 27°25′N. and 78°30′E., lies about 5 miles to the south-west of Awa, and in 1901 contained 2,204 inhabitants. Its total area is 2,057 acres, of which 1,368 are cultivated,

and is assessed to land revenue at Rs. 4,430. It is managed by the court of wards on behalf of the minor proprietor, Chedu Lal.

DUNDWARAGANJ, *pargana* PATIALI, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This town lies on the Sahawar-Patiali road, 22 miles north-east of Etah in 27°46′N. and 79°1′E. It is administered under Act XX of 1856 and, situated as it is on the railway between Cawnpore and Kasganj, is of considerable and growing local importance as a market for agricultural produce, doing a large trade in exporting grain, especially to the west. Curiously enough, though its prosperity has been steadily increasing of recent years, its population has been diminishing. In 1865 it contained 5,817 inhabitants, in 1872 it had 5,414, in 1891 these had sunk to 4,979, and at the 1901 census there had been a further decrease to 4,273. The town is made up of the two sites of Dundwaraganj and Dundwara Khas separated from each other by a road only and contains sixteen muhallas or wards. Tradition has it that the land on which the town is built was formerly in the possession of Kont Rajputs who were expelled by Shahab-ud-din Ghori in 1194 A.D., a colony of Dundiya Kayasths, from whom the present name is derived, being settled there in their stead. The *ganj* or market was built by Shujaat Khan, the brother-in-law of the Farrukhabad Nawab. Markets are held here every Monday and Thursday, and a newly established cattle fair every Tuesday. The town contains a bazar, market place and sarai, and its centre roadway is a busy place. It is somewhat slovenly and dirty in appearance, but contains several well-built shops, especially those for the sale of cloth and blankets. The Dundwara Khas portion is an agricultural village, containing many mud-built houses and enclosures belonging to the Musalman zamindars. In Dundwaraganj also the inhabitants are principally Musalmans, among whom the Julahas are the most important section. Both portions are narrow and compressed but are situated on a well raised site and joined by a wide metalled road, which however has been considerably diminished in many places by encroachments. The town contains a post-office, a school and a cattle-pound. There are 1,274 houses in the town, 700 of which are assessed to a house-tax under Act

XX of 1856. In 1908-09 the income from this source was Rs. 902, giving an incidence of Re. 1-4-7 per house assessed and of 3 annas and 5 pies per head of population, while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 1,589-1-0. The expenditure for the same year was Rs. 1,386-2-11, the chief items being Rs. 719-8-0 on account of police charges, Rs. 348 for the maintenance of the conservancy establishment, and Rs. 140-9-6 for local public improvements. The Sanitation Act is in force as in other Act XX towns of the district.

ETAH, *pargana and tahsil* ETAH.

This town, from which the district takes its name, is situated on the Grand Trunk Road in 27°34′N. and 78°43′E. It has been the headquarters of the district since 1856 only, Patiali and Sirhpura in turn preceding it in that distinction. The population was 8,796 in 1901, or more than 1,000 in excess of the number enumerated at the previous census.

Etah is only an overgrown village opened out by metalled roads, and deriving its sole importance from the fact that it is the headquarters of the district. Its affairs are managed under United Provinces Act I of 1900 by a committee of 12 members, of whom nine are non-official and three official, the magistrate being the chairman. Details of the income and expenditure of the municipality for each year since 1890 will be found in the appendix. The fine bazar, known as Mayneganj after Mr. F. O. Mayne, a former collector, is the property of the municipality. It consists of several rows of strongly-built shops, shaded by trees and relieved here and there by open spaces, and has been considerably enlarged and improved of recent years. To the west of the *ganj* is the new part of Etah, well supplied with good metalled roads and containing the school, built like a small church with a square steeple. A small boarding-house is attached to the school. To the east of the town is the temple built by the late Raja Dilsukh Rai after his own designs, an extraordinarily high and solid edifice, and near it is a large tank with a handsome flight of steps of block kankar but unfortunately no water. Near the temple are the school and boarding-house built by the Raja and presented to the residents of the town. The rooms are raised

high above the ground level by a terraced plinth supporting massive pillars and wide oval arches. Behind the school-house and facing the Grand Trunk Road stands the municipal hall. In the town itself mud houses predominate, but most of the streets are metalled and drained. The hospital is a fine building, containing a ward built in commemoration of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887. There is also a police hospital. Beyond the Raja's temple stands the tahsili, a not particularly adequate structure. Altogether the town site is level and lies rather low—a fact which rendered it liable to be flooded, the water lodging in the numerous hollows and depressions. This inconvenience was however remedied by Mr. Mayne, who made a cutting into the great tank on the eastern outskirts and thence to the Kak Nadi, four miles distant, and the drainage has been further improved by the carrying out in 1899 of a comprehensive scheme for the whole town. A memorial garden with a statue of Queen Victoria has been recently laid out at the junction of the Jalesar, Sikandra Rao and Kasganj roads.

Neither the trade nor the manufactures of Etah are important. There is one cotton-ginning factory in the town—worked at a loss—and a certain amount of leather is cured for export to Cawnpore and Delhi. It also serves as a collecting centre for the agricultural produce of the neighbourhood, exporting grain, cotton, poppy-seed and so forth to Hathras, Cawnpore, Kasganj and Agra, while the imports consist mostly of cloth, metal vessels and various preparations of sugar. An important cattle-market is held every Monday and Friday near Mayneganj, the commercial centre of the town.

The town is said to have been founded over five hundred years ago by Sangram Singh, one of the Chauhan chiefs descended from Prithiraj of Delhi. This prince, who then resided at Pahor, a village a mile to the south of the present town, was out hunting when he was struck with the suitability of the spot for a town site, and determined to build a town there. While marking out the foundations with a dagger he happened to strike upon a brick, and so gave the place the name "*inta*", or "the place of bricks," whence the present name is derived. A similar fable is related to explain the name Etawah (Intawah)

According to local tradition Etah was the site of an older town named Aurangabad, which had been deserted and overgrown with jungle. Sangram Singh built a mud fort which is still in existence to the north of the town, and for several generations his descendants occupied the surrounding territory, with the title of Raja, until the Mutiny, when Raja Damar Singh rebelled and the property and title were both confiscated.

ETAH-SAKIT *pargana, tahsil* ETAH.

Pargana Etah-Sakit occupies the south-eastern portion of the headquarters tahsil, and is bounded on the south-east and south by the Mainpuri district; on the west by pargana Marehra; on the north by the Kali Nadi, which separates it from tahsil Kasganj; and on the east by pargana Sonhar. The total area is 160,797 acres, or 251·24 square miles. Along the Kali Nadi lies a tract of lowlying *tarai* land with a belt of sand on the high bank, gradually increasing from a narrow ridge in the west to sandy undulations five or six miles in width on the Sonhar border. In the east of the pargana the soil is loam, interrupted by frequent *usar* plains of considerable extent, and exhibiting a marked deterioration both south and east of the centre of the pargana.

Of the total area 86,955 acres, or more than half, were under cultivation in the year of record 1308 *fasli*, or 1900-01; 63,395 acres were culturable but not under the plough, and 8,551 acres were quite unculturable. Groves covered 1,896 acres. Of the cultivated area 44,274 acres, or more than half, were irrigated, the canal watering 14,412 acres of this,—nearly double the 7,850 acres recorded at the 1873 settlement. This increase is due to the construction of the new Bewar branch of the Lower Ganges canal, which passes through the extreme length of the pargana, giving irrigation to the parts which most needed it. In addition to this 1,119 new masonry wells have been constructed between 1873 and 1902.

The pargana is well drained, having the Kali Nadi on the north and the Isan on the south-west. The latter runs for the most part in a deeply cut bed and does not overflow except in the wettest seasons; but near the crossing of the Shikohabad road, the

channel is less well defined and the surrounding country is somewhat liable to inundation, but is for this reason suitable for rice cultivation. Other drainage lines are the Khara Nala, also called Nala Nakta-Bacha, in the north-east, and the Kak Nadi, an ill-defined depression which, starting in the north-west angle of the pargana, runs diagonally across it to the south-east, emerging near the village of Nanipur Wailamai and eventually discharging into the Isan in Mainpuri. A regular drain has recently been dug along the line of the depression, thereby immensely improving it as an escape for water. This work and the construction of some minor cuts have made the drainage of the pargana very fairly satisfactory.

The principal *rabi* crop is wheat, grown mostly alone, but also to a considerable extent along with other crops. Next in importance is barley. A great stimulus has been given to the cultivation of poppy since the 1873 settlement, the area under this crop having risen from 83 to 1,689 acres. In the *kharif* season *bajra* and *juar*, grown by themselves and in combination with *arhar*, are still the most important staples, though maize has advanced wonderfully in popularity, covering 8,096 acres as against 960 acres 30 years ago. Sugarcane has more than doubled in area, but cotton has fallen off, only 3,812 acres being grown in lieu of 8,837. Here as elsewhere the increase in the practice of double-cropping is one of the features of the settlement period, 14,838 acres being so employed in comparison with the former 910 acres.

Of the total area 97,921 acres, or 60 per cent., are held in single and joint *zamindari*, 31,583 acres in perfect and 23,399 acres in imperfect *pattidari*, and 2,520 acres are held in *bhaiyachara* tenure. The principal of the old landowners are Thakur Hanwant Singh of Etah and the Raja of Rajaur, but the former does not now reside in the district. The wealthiest are probably Rai Awadh Narain and Ram Narain of the Kayasth family of Sakit. A considerable number of villages in the north of the pargana are owned by the Messrs. Maxwell of the Raur concern. The co-parcenary bodies are mostly of considerable size and in poor circumstances. Of the cultivated area 67 per cent. is held by occupancy tenants and 14 per cent. by tenants-at-will, while

13 per cent. is cultivated by proprietors as *sir*. There has been a remarkable rise in rents during the last settlement period, between 1873 and 1902, the occupancy incidence increasing from Rs. 3·28 to Rs. 4·5 per acre, or by 37 per cent., and the competition rate from Rs. 3·55 to Rs. 6·52, or by 83 per cent. The rates fixed by the settlement officer range from Rs. 10-8-6 for the best quality of irrigated *gauhan* to Re. 1-5-1 for the poorest unirrigated *bhur*.

The communications of the pargana, containing as it does the district headquarters, are good, though it lies entirely off the railway. Metalled roads connect Etah with Kasganj, Marehra and Sikandra Rao, all stations on the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway, and with Shikohabad and Jalesar Road on the East Indian, while the Grand Trunk Road crosses the pargana at its widest part and the metalling of the Aliganj road is more than half completed. Unmetalled roads lead from Etah to Sirhpura and Amanpur and from Sakit to Shikohabad and Mainpuri. The only municipality is Etah, with a population of 8,796. It derives its only importance from the fact that it is the district head-quarters, and has neither trade nor manufactures. Sakit is administered under the Mufassil Town Police Act (XX of 1856), contains 4,668 inhabitants and is the principal mart of the neighbourhood, but the little trade it does is restricted to agricultural produce. The pargana represents the old Akbari pargana of Sakit. In the 18th century *taluqa* Etah was carved out of it, and was in 1859 separately assessed by Mr. Edmonstone. But this, like the rest of the possessions of the Raja of Etah, was confiscated after the Mutiny, only thirteen villages being spared for the Rani's maintenance, and in 1872 the dismembered pargana was again united into one.

ETAH *tahsil.*

This tahsil comprises the three parganas of Marehra, Etah-Sakit and Sonhar, which are each separately described. It lies in the south of the district, jutting out into the Mainpuri district which forms its southern boundary. To the south-west lies the Jalesar tahsil and to the north-west the Aligarh district.

On the north it marches with pargana Bilram, while the Kalí Nadi divides it on the north-east and east from the Kasganj and Aliganj tahsils. The total area is 307,428 acres or 480·36 square miles. The tahsil is in the charge of a full-powered deputy magistrate and collector, assisted by the tahsildar of Etah in criminal and revenue work. Civil jurisdiction is exercised by the munsif of Etah, who is subordinate to the judge of Aligarh. There are three police stations within the tahsil—at Etah, Sakit and Marehra—and also an outpost at Nidhauli. These circles are conterminous with the tahsil boundaries.

The population of the tahsil has considerably increased during 1891-1901 though in the preceding decade the numbers remained almost stationary. It fared better however than either Kasganj or Aliganj, both of which lost heavily during the disastrously wet seasons which prevailed in the eighties. The inhabitants, who numbered 226,891 in 1882 and 227,030 in 1891, amounted in 1901 to 259,773 or 541 to the square mile. Hindus outnumbered Musalmans by 212,642 while other religions mustered only 4,569 persons all told, of whom 2,080 were Christians, 1,637 Jains, 560 Aryans and 292 Sikhs. Among the Hindus the most important castes were Ahirs, 39,838; Lodhas, 31,325; Chamars, 30,422; Rajputs, 18,703; Brahmans, 17,253; and Kachhis, 16,137. Kahars, Gadariyas and Banias had over 7,000 members each and Koris, Barhais and Dhobis over 5,000. Among the Musalmans Shaikhs took the lead with 3,573, Faqirs, Bhistis and Pathans having each more than 2,000 representatives while all the 378 Kambohs in the district were congregated in this tahsil. As is to be expected in a tract so essentially agricultural and devoid of trade or manufactures, 66 per cent. of the population are entirely occupied with the cultivation of the soil, either as landowners, tenants, field-labourers or farm servants. The strong position of the tenantry is indicated by the fact that, excluding sub-tenants, nearly 90 per cent. of them had occupancy rights. General labour supported 16,691 persons, and almost all the remainder were engaged in the various businesses necessary to the satisfaction of the needs of an agricultural community.

FAIZPUR BADARIA *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Faizpur Badaria occupies the northern corner of the district and is the most westerly of the parganas lying along the Ganges, which separates it on the north from the Budaun district. The Burhganga forms the western and southern boundary across which lie the Aligarh district and parganas Pachlana, Bilram and Soron, while to the east is pargana Aulai. The extreme length of the pargana is about 11 miles while its width nowhere exceeds 6 miles and narrows down to two miles at the western and eastern extremities. The total area is 30,471 acres, or 47·6 square miles.

Situated as the pargana is in the immediate bed of the Ganges the soils are throughout alluvial in character, but the area nevertheless divides into three well-defined tracts—the *katra*, or low-lying lands which receive the overflow and deposit of the Ganges; the *danda*, or upper lands; and the Burhganga *tarai*. The surface rises in a gentle slope from the Ganges to just above the Burhganga, where it dips sharply down, the soil deteriorating with the rise. But the surface is everywhere uneven and in the depressions the soil, which is everywhere a comparatively thin layer of alluvium over the pure white sand of the Ganges bed, improves in quality and depth. The *tarai*, both of the Ganges and Burhganga, is rich, strong soil, growing sugar and rice without irrigation. The former is however more valuable than the latter, for while in the *katra* floods run off rapidly without hindrance, in the narrow and obstructed Burhganga they last much longer, and heavy rainfall early in the season is apt to destroy the sugarcane. The soils of the *danda* are generally light and friable, with a considerable admixture of sand even in the best, but differing from the soils of the upland tracts of the district as apparently containing a greater amount of vegetable matter. They rather resemble artificial soils, the composts of the gardener, and it is probably the presence of this vegetable matter that enables such comparatively light and sandy soils to grow the better crops like wheat. The pargana is liable to diluvion, and the action of the Ganges has cut away the greater portion of the more valuable *tarai*, while a change in the deep stream has transferred seven villages bodily to Budaun.

The tract along the Burhganga is liable to waterlogging, but the drainage has been considerably improved of late years by various cuts made by the canal officers. Irrigation, which is unnecessary in the *tarai* and *katra*, is practised on the *danda*—where the water-level is only 8 or 10 feet from the surface—by means of *kachha* wells worked by the pot and lever method. There are no canals.

Of the total area 16,704 acres were cultivated in 1902, a decrease of 1,347 acres since 1873, due partly to the damage done by the cycle of wet years, which saturated the soil and denuded a great part of the *danda*, and partly to diluvion of the Ganges *katra*. Five thousand five hundred and ninety-four acres are recorded as culturable and 7,954 acres as barren. One hundred and eighty-three acres are planted with groves. The *rabi* area is slightly smaller than the *kharif*, but has enlarged itself at the latter's expense, the respective figures being now 8,757 and 9,934 acres, as contrasted with 7,526 and 10,718 acres at the last settlement. A double crop is now taken off 2,270 acres instead of 159 acres as formerly. The most important *rabi* crop is wheat, which takes up 79 per cent. of the *rabi* area, barley occupying most of the remainder. In the *kharif bajra* and *juar* between them occupy rather more than half the land. Maize, which now covers 1,826 acres, having more than trebled its area during the last 30 years, has largely replaced cotton, its enhanced popularity being due to the fact that it can be followed by a *rabi* crop. The destruction of so much *katra* land has reduced the area under sugarcane, but it still stands at 1,050 acres.

The principal cultivating castes are Gadariyas, Ahirs, Brahmans and Chamars. Thirty-two per cent. of the total area is held in occupancy tenure, the average rental incidence being Rs. 3·12 per acre. The principal landholders are Musalmans, who now own 27 per cent. of the total area and have recently been adding to their possessions. Thakurs, who are the original proprietors, still hold 19 per cent., but have lost 16 per cent. of their domains since the last settlement. Next come Europeans, represented by a branch of the Gardner family at Fatehpur who have held their own with but little loss, and now possess 17

per cent. of the pargana. Brahmans and Banias have both added largely to their former area and own 12 and 9 per cent., respectively, while Ahirs in spite of considerable losses have still a little more than the Banias. The great bulk of the area belongs to coparcenary bodies who are for the most part in struggling circumstances: 6,695 acres are held in single *zamindari* by 19 proprietors; 14,825 acres in joint *zamindari* by 229 owners and 8,452 acres in *pattidari* by 349 co-sharers.

The pargana is purely agricultural, possessing neither towns nor manufactures. A weekly market is held at Fatehpur, but the greater part of the produce finds its way to Soron and Kasganj, which are connected with the pargana by unmetalled and unbridged roads, one running north from Soron to Yaklahra, where there is a ferry, and so to Budaun, the other leaving the Ganges at the same point, but curving westwards through Salempur to Kasganj. Communications within the pargana are in the same state as they were in 1873 but the railway, with a station at Soron, has greatly improved communications with the provinces in general.

In the time of Akbar the pargana formed a portion of pargana Sahaswan in *dastur* and *sarkar* Budaun, and was separated during the 18th century.

JAITHRA, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village in 27°29′N. and 79°3′E. lies on the Etah-Aliganj road at a distance of 23 miles from Etah. Its population has fluctuated in a remarkable manner, falling from 3,455 in 1865 to 1,077 in 1872, and rising again to 2,648 in 1891 and 3,415 in 1901. The revival may be connected with the fact that in 1885 it was made the headquarters of a police circle on the abolition of the old police station at Dhumri. The village lands cover a total area of 4,810 acres, of which 2,850 are cultivated, and the revenue assessed on them is Rs. 3,175. The Raja of Awa is the *zamindar*, having acquired the village from its former owners, Musalman Thakurs of the Katiya clan, of whose large *taluqdari* it formed part. It is said to have been founded by Jaisukh Rai, grandson of Dhir Sahai, brother of Raja Ram

Sahai, the Rathor Thakur who founded Rampur. The name is derived from the Jaithri goddess worshipped by Jaisukh Rai, whose house and likeness carved in stone are still to be seen in the village. Besides the police station the village also contains a school and pound.

JALESAR, *pargana and tahsil* JALESAR.

This town, the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, is situated in 27°28′ N. and 78°19′ E. between the Isan and Sirsa rivers about a mile from the left bank of the former, and in 1901 contained 14,348 inhabitants. The town consists of two parts—the fort and the lower town: the former a large mound visible from a considerable distance, crowned by the tahsili, munsifi, police station and municipal hall; the latter a collection of narrow streets and lanes, bordering the metalled road which leads from Awa to the Jalesar Road station of the East Indian Railway. It is 8 miles distant from the railway, 11 from Awa, and 23 from Etah. The surrounding country, though well wooded, is low and swampy, and periodical inundations of the land near the town probably suggested the name Jalesar, which means. "The God of Waters." Nothing now remains of the fort but a shapeless mound with some remains of ruined walls of block kankar. Its erection is ascribed to Rana Katira of Mewar, who was probably contemporaneous with the fall of Chitor in 1403 A.D. The Muhammadans are said to have resisted his invasion under the command of one Saiyid Ibrahim, who was killed and is now revered as a martyr and a saint, his *urs*, or annual feast, being held from the 19th to the 26th of the month Shaban, seven days after the *shab-i-barat*. His tomb and resting place for pilgrims (*dargah*), quite modern and uninteresting buildings, lie a short distance north of the town in a fine tamarind grove, and are visited by considerable numbers of pilgrims, both Hindu and Muhammadan. The saint cannot be identified with the famous Saiyid Ibrahim, the Shia martyr, and he enjoys only a local reputation. There is another fair held every Saturday in honour of a certain Bara Miyan, a Malang faqir, who came here in the 17th century from Ajmer and practised austerities. His shrine is near the fort, and is

known as the "drain" or *mohri*, a place where once upon a time the sun god (Suraj Narayan) showed himself and disappeared. A considerable amount of business is done in the town at both of these fairs.

Jalesar contains a tahsili school, with an average attendance of about 65, and a charitable dispensary with a commodious but badly situated building which relieves about 40 patients daily. The other public buildings, with the exception of the municipal bungalow used as a rest-house by district officers, are inferior, the tahsili in particular having very bad accommodation. The drainage of the town is unsatisfactory, and the surrounding country remains waterlogged long after the cessation of the rains. The municipality is too poor for an extensive drainage scheme. The town is exceptionally well provided with good metalled roads, and the construction of those known as the east and west circular roads has relieved the congested traffic of the narrow main streets. A former secretary to the municipality had a bazar constructed known as Fisherganj, after its founder. This was built with a confidence in the development of trade which has not yet been justified by the result, and would accommodate nearly all the existing shops in the place.

There was in former times a considerable population of wealthy Muhammadans and there are numerous well built houses in the town, but the Jalesar Musalmans have lost much of their importance, and the greater part of the proprietary rights in the lands round the town has passed into the hands of the Raja of Awa. The climate of the higher parts of the town is fairly good, but in the lower town owing to flooding and bad water-supply malarial fever is prevalent.

Jalesar is not a thriving town, though it has a fair local trade. The railway has diverted most of its commerce to Agra and Hathras. A large cotton-ginning mill has been started of recent years by the Raja of Awa, who is endeavouring to stimulate the cultivation of cotton in his villages, and the cotton trade promises to become of some importance. There is also a large saltpetre refinery belonging to Lala Lalta Parshad of Cawnpore. The most important of the other local manufactures are shoes,

country cloth, glass bangles, and ornaments and utensils of brass and pewter. The Jalesar shoes have more than a local reputation and are exported in considerable quantities, particularly to the eastern districts. The cloth and pewter-ware too are in some demand in Agra and the neighbouring districts, but for the most part the produce of the town finds its market in the surrounding villages. Betel leaves and tobacco are both grown in and about the town and exported to other districts.

The affairs of the town are administered by a municipal board of nine members, of whom six are elected. The income is mainly derived from octroi, which usually produces about Rs. 13,000 a year. Details of both income and expenditure for each year since 1890 will be found in the appendix.

JALESAR *pargana and tahsil.*

Pargana and tahsil Jalesar forms a projection to the south-west of the Etah district to which it is only attached along about 10 miles of its north-eastern border. To the north is the Aligarh district, to the west Muttra, while Agra and Mainpuri adjoin it on the south and east.

It contains 161 villages with a total area of 145,425 acres, or 227 square miles.

The tahsil lies on the watershed of the Ganges-Jamna Duab, but as at its nearest point it comes within 10 miles of the Jamna, while its minimum distance from the Ganges is 32 miles, it approximates in physical characteristics to the valley of the former river. The country is an extensive, nearly unbroken plain, sloping, as its drainage system shows, gently towards the south. The main drainage line is the Isan Nadi, known in other parts of its course as the Sengar, Sirsa or Domariya. This river enters the pargana at the north-west corner from pargana Hathras of the Aligarh district and, after a tortuous southerly course past Jalesar and Umargarh, flows out into the Mainpuri district. The Sirsa enters the tahsil at the village of Patna and, running nearly due south, joins the Isan to the south-east of Jalesar. The north-east corner is drained by the Ratia Nadi which for a few miles forms the boundary. The east of the

pargana, which formerly depended entirely on the small Awa *nala* and was apt to suffer from flooding in seasons of excessive rain, has now been relieved by a new drain passing through Jalukhera. The drainage is now on the whole fair, except when the rainfall is abnormally heavy; in such seasons the water lies for weeks in flat spots such as the plain to the east of Awa and the neighbourhood of Jalesar town.

A line of sand dunes crosses the tahsil from north to south, and east of this line the soil is good loam, though it grows lighter towards the south. To the west the surface is at first uneven, and when more level ground is reached the water is brackish and deficient and the land infested by the *baisurai* weed. A feature of the tahsil is the extent of the *usar* plains. Efforts to reclaim this land by plantations of *babul* have been made by the Raja of Awa with fair success. Irrigation with indigo water and manuring with indigo refuse have also been tried, but even if the expense had not been prohibitive the decay of the indigo industry has made this method impracticable. East of the Isan irrigation is good, most of the villages being reached by the water from the Etawah branch of the Ganges canal. A certain amount of canal water sent down the bed of the river is used for irrigation on the west side and there is a distributary south of Jalesar, but unfortunately very little water gets so far, though it is here that the canal would be most welcome as the local water is largely brackish. On the average some 96,000 acres are irrigated every year—a considerable increase on the 84,783 acres of the 1873 settlement. This is due to the extension of the canal distributaries which now command a 70 per cent. greater area. Well irrigation on the other hand has decreased from 65,192 acres to between 62,000 and 63,000 acres, though 282 masonry and 1,249 half masonry wells have been sunk since the 1873 settlement. The total cultivated area was 93,958 acres in 1902, but no less than 3,412 acres were shown as new fallow, so that the decrease from the 96,832 acres of cultivation of the old settlement with only 810 acres of new fallow is rather apparent than real. There has actually been very little fluctuation from year to year, the tahsil being both fertile and stable. Groves now cover 1,437 acres, an

increase of 457 in the 30 years, and 31,262 acres are incultivable. The principal *rabi* crop is wheat, which, alone or in combination, occupies about three-fifths of the *rabi* area, most of the remainder being devoted to barley, either alone or combined with other crops. Gram is not much sown, and there is practically no poppy. Of the *kharif* crops maize is becoming more important owing to the general practice of following it with a wheat crop, but *juar* is still the principal staple, alone or with *arhar*, and occupies over 18 per cent. of the cultivated area, *bajra* only accounting for about half as much. Cotton is an important crop, and now that the Raja of Awa has set up ginning mills at Jalesar its importance should increase. A little rice and sugarcane are grown. Indigo cultivation, which occupied 6,500 acres at the last settlement, has now almost ceased. There has been, as elsewhere in the district, a rise in the double-cropped area which is now nearly 20 per cent. of the whole. The standard of cultivation is good but of a broad type, the size of the holdings, which average 7·87 acres for occupancy tenants and 5·13 acres for non-occupancy, militating against close cultivation.

As usual, Kachhis and Lodhas are the best cultivators and Brahmans among the worst, but there is little of the intensive market-gardening with which the Kachhi is usually associated. The proportion held by occupancy tenants has risen since last settlement from a little over half to more than two-thirds of the entire tenants' area. There has obviously been no attempt to eradicate the privileged tenant, tenants-at-will being freely permitted to acquire occupancy rights. This is probably due to the character of the proprietary body. Thakurs hold 73·5 per cent. of the entire pargana against 76·17 per cent. at last settlement; and Brahmans 11·67 per cent. against 11·02. Though 21 per cent. of the area has been transferred, the trading classes have bought but little, Banias holding only 4·96 per cent., Kayasths 3·90 per cent. and Kalwar Mahajans ·50 per cent. The main proprietor is the Thakur Raja of Awa, whose purchases conceal the losses suffered by the rest of the Thakur community. Apart from the Raja and the Rao of Umargarh, the landlords are petty proprietors with small holdings. Imperfect *pattidari*

covers nearly one-fifth of the total area, and the average holding is only 14 acres. Joint *zamindari* is the rule in another 12 per cent. and each proprietor owns on the average only 18 acres. The population has steadily increased since 1881, when it stood at 118,925. In 1891 it amounted to 121,030, an increase which is a remarkable testimony to the stability of the tract in view of the losses suffered by most of its neighbours during that decade. At the census in 1901 the total was 133,399 persons, of whom 61,144 were females. This gives a density of 587 to the square mile, which is a full one for an agricultural tract containing only one moderate-sized town. Hindus outnumbered Musalmans by over 7 to 1, the respective totals being 115,179 and 15,400, while other religions only mustered 2,820 persons comprising 2,190 Jains, 410 Christians, 215 Aryans and 5 Sikhs. The most numerous Hindu caste was that of Chamars with 25,001 representatives. Rajputs, 17,911; Ahirs, 10,733; and Brahmans, 10,033, were the only others with more than 10,000 members apiece, while Lodhas, Gadariyas, and Kachhis had each over 5,000. Among the Musalmans Shaikhs headed the list with 1,946; Behnas and Pathans coming close behind with 1,614 and 1,347 respectively. No other caste had as many as 1,000 representatives, though Faqirs with 1986, Saiyids with 972 and the humble but necessary Bhangi with 914, approached this number. The agricultural character of the tahsil is further proved by the fact that 59 per cent. of its inhabitants rely directly on the land for a living as *zamindars*, tenants or field-labourers. Of the rest 9,186 are supported by general labour, 2,021 are engaged in the breeding and tendance of cattle and sheep, 10,121 or 8 per cent. are employed in service of various kinds as barbers, sweepers, washermen and so forth, and the remainder, excluding 1,913 lay mendicants and 721 priests, carry on the trades and industries of the tahsil. The principal town is Jalesar, a municipality with 14,348 inhabitants. It has a fair trade, and should attract more now that the Raja of Awa has started a large cotton-ginning factory there, especially if his proposed steam-tramway is constructed to connect the town with the railway. Next in importance to Jalesar is Awa, an Act XX town, with a population of 5,467 and a

considerable bazar. Umargarh has 4,457 inhabitants but is little more than a big village. There is only one metalled road in the tahsil. This runs through Jalesar from Etah and leads to the Manikpur station of the East Indian Railway about eight miles distant. *Kachha* roads connect Jalesar with Sikandra Rao and Firozabad and another goes to the railway station at Barhan. There is an unmetalled road from Awa to Umargarh and on to Tundla. These with various village roads make up a fairly adequate system of communications, but in order to give easy access to Agra the raising and metalling of the Awa-Tundla road is called for, as the existing road is often under water to a considerable depth in the rains. The desirability of metalled communication between Jalesar and the adjacent city of Hathras is evident.

The tahsil is in the charge of a full-powered deputy magistrate assisted by the tahsildar of Jalesar. Civil jurisdiction is in the hands of the munsif of Jalesar, who is subordinate to the judge of Aligarh. There are police stations at Jalesar and Awa. Jalesar was one of the 31 mahals of *sarkar* Agra recorded in the *Ain-i-Akbari;* it passed on the downfall of the Mughal empire into the hands of the Marathas, until it was annexed by the British after Lord Lake's campaign in 1803. His energy in collecting supplies gained for Thakur Hira Singh the confirmation of his title to the Awa-Misa *taluqa* out of which the present Awa estate has grown. From the date of the cession until 1874 Jalesar was included in the Muttra district, an arrangement full of inconveniences. The chief towns, Jalesar and Awa, were respectively 43 and 55 miles distant from the district headquarters, while the character and products of the soil and the castes and customs of the people differed greatly from those of the remainder of the district.

In 1874 the pargana was transferred to Agra, but though the country and people were more homogeneous, the distances to the district headquarters still remained very great and the difficulties of administration were not removed to any great degree. Finally in 1879 the pargana with the exception of a tract to the south-west left with Agra was transferred to Etah.

JARASMI, *pargana and tahsil* ETAH.

This large village lies four and a half miles from Etah in 27°35′N. and 78°47′E. The population has increased from 1,413 in 1872 to 4,008 in 1901. The total area is 3,664 acres, of which 3,112 are cultivated, and the revenue assessed on it is Rs. 8,650. The village was founded by Jagat Singh of Bilram, the ancestor of the former Chauhan Rajas of Etah, and used to be looked on as the head of the eight villages known as the Athgaon Chauhanan, but has now passed into the hands of Kayasths, Ram Narain being the zamindar. There is a school in the village and an annual fair is held here at the time of the Ram Naumi festival.

KADIRGANJ, *pargana* NIDHPUR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village lies on the bank of the Ganges 32 miles north-east of Etah, in 27°48′N. and 79°7′E. The population, which fell from 3,128 in 1865 to 2,717 in 1872, was 3,275 in 1901. The village is a mere collection of wretched mud houses with a small bazar. To the west on a high mound of earth are the remains of a fort built of block kankar, and a tomb, partly in ruins, within which Shujaat Khan, from whom the former zamindars were descended, lies buried. He was killed in the battle of Dori, fighting on the side of his brother-in-law, the Nawab of Farrukhabad, against the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan. The tomb has twice been struck by lightning. Beneath the fort are the brick houses of the zamindars, the only respectable buildings, except one or two belonging to mahajans in the bazar, to be found in the whole place. Kadirganj is built on the site of a former village called Chilla Chaun, inhabited by Taila Thakurs, a most turbulent race of marauders, who levied black-mail on all sides, stopping and plundering all vessels passing up and down the Ganges. At length the outcry against their misdeeds became so great that Shujaat Khan was sent against them and they were utterly destroyed. Their conqueror built himself a fort on the site of the village and settled his people round about, naming the place Kadirganj after one of his ancestors, Kadirdad Khan. In former times the fort enclosed a large area of ground, but the floods of the Ganges swept

away a great piece of the mound on which it was built, and made the foundations of a large portion of the enclosing walls unsafe; these were therefore pulled down by the late zamindars Ghulam Nabi and his brothers, who disposed of the kankar blocks for building purposes in Farrukhabad. The old gateway with its round towers still remains, and is a landmark for a great distance round. There is also in Kadirganj the tomb of a noted faqir, Reta Shah, who died about 1850. An annual fair, at which *débutante* dancing-girls pay their vows, is held in the village in the month of December and attracts an average attendance of about 7,000. The total area of the village is 3,414 acres, of which 2,224 are cultivated, and the land revenue assessed on it is Rs. 4,460. Most of the land has passed out of the hands of the former zamindars, the descendants of Shujaat Khan, to the present Kayasth proprietors, Sri Narain Das being the most important. The village contains a police station, post-office and school, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Saturday. Kadirganj is administered under the Mufussil Town Police Act (XX of 1856) and in 1908-09 contained 978 houses, of which 694 were assessed. The income from the house-tax for that year was Rs. 660, giving an incidence of Re. 0-15-1 per house assessed and Re. 0-3-2 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 806. The expenditure for the same year was Rs. 703, the chief items being Rs. 415 on account of police charges, Rs. 170 for pay of the conservancy establishment and Rs. 50 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

KASGANJ, *pargana* BILRAM, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This, the most important town in the Etah district, lies 19 miles to the north of Etah in 27°48′ N. and 78°39′ E. The population, which in 1847 was only 10,752, had risen by 1872 to 15,764. At the next enumeration it was 16,535, but in 1891 it reflected the depression prevailing over the whole district by dropping to 16,050. During the next decade however the return of prosperous seasons coupled with the new railway

effected a remarkable improvement, and the population rose to 19,686. Of these 10,661, or more than half, were males. Classified according to religions there were 12,707 Hindus, 6,054 Musalmans, 70 Jains, 221 Christians and 634 Aryas.

The site on which Kasganj is built is sufficiently raised to permit the drainage to run off into the Kali Nadi, which flows about a mile and a quarter to the south-east of the town. A fine metalled road runs through the centre of the town from north to south and forms the principal bazar, while a second passes from east to west, the extremities of the two being connected by a road which encircles the town round the north, west and south sides. Where the two principal roads meet there are a number of good shops, forming a handsome octagon-shaped building, called the *Barahdari*, which provides an appropriate centre to the town. The shops on both roads are substantial, good buildings, and not only are the main streets metalled, but many of the minor lanes also. Throughout the town there is a good proportion of brick houses, shaded by many fine trees, but the eastern quarter inhabited by the poorer classes of Hindus is not so well kept as the remainder. The public buildings include a municipal hall; the dispensary, a plain structure with round arches, lying well within the town to the north-east; the police station and tahsili, both poor, unsuitable buildings; two good schools with a large attendance of pupils; and the munsifi, which is established in an old Musalman building. There are also a cattle-pound, a *parao* or halting-place for carts, and four *sarais* within the town. A fine mosque remarkable for its curious roof and numerous minarets stands in the Muhammadan quarter. Water is everywhere found close to the surface and there are numerous public wells. North of the town, and withdrawn from the city though not far from the town hall, stands the palace of the former Raja of Kasganj. Built by Shankar Singh, the son of Raja Dilsukh Rai, it is an imposing fort-like edifice, standing out in a picturesque and striking way to catch the eye of a traveller approaching from the north. It includes a temple, courtyard, stables and the other usual buildings, among them a large elephant house. Nearer to the town and close to the town hall stands the new school house,

a first-rate building erected only a few years ago but already proving too small for the pupils who attend it. The school is an excellently managed middle vernacular school, an old building by the tahsil being used as a boarding-house. At the opposite end of the town, to the south, lie the railway station and a railway settlement. Kasganj is not merely an important trade centre but also a junction and engine-changing station, and a considerable railway population has consequently sprung into being with several bungalows and an institute or club. Hard by are four ginning factories, of which two also contain cotton presses.

The trade and traffic of the town have greatly increased and are still increasing; very large quantities of grain now pass through the hands of the Kasganj banias, and the town is a collecting and distributing centre for all country produce, especially grain, sugar and cotton. There are a number of sugar refineries which are run at a considerable profit. The affairs of the municipality are managed by a committee of twelve members, of whom three are appointed and nine elected. The income and expenditure are shown in the appendix. Kasganj is said to have been founded by Yaqut Khan, *alias* Khan Bahadur Khan, the founder of Aliganj and builder of the great mosque. He was a eunuch in the employ of Muhammad Khan of Farrukhabad. On his death Khuda Bakhsh Khan became proprietor of the town, and after him Muhammad Bakhsh Khan; the latter sold it to Colonel James Gardner. On the colonel's death it passed to his son Sulaiman Shikoh Gardner, better known in Etah as Muna Sahib, who in 1859 sold it to Dilsukh Rai, formerly an agent of the Gardner family, who had been raised to the dignity of Raja and honorary magistrate. At the cession a military cantonment had been established at Kasganj, but this was burnt down during Holkar's raid into the Duab in 1804. Colonel Gardner built cantonments for his cavalry at Kunwarpur, about two miles from Kasganj, in 1809, and these remained till 1828, when he resigned command of the regiment.

KASGANJ *tahsil*.

This tahsil, which occupies the north-west corner of the district, lies almost entirely in the Ganges-Kali Nadi Duab, the

former river separating it from Budaun on the north and the latter from the Etah tahsil on the south. A small portion of the tahsil in the south-west corner lies on the far side of the Kali Nadi. On the west it marches with Aligarh and on the east with the Aliganj tahsil. It includes the seven parganas of Bilram, Pachlana, Faizpur Badaria, Aulai, Soron, Sahawar Karsana and Sirhpura, of each of which a full description will be found elsewhere, and its total area is 316,307 acres, or 494 square miles. The tahsil is in the charge of a full-powered deputy magistrate and collector on the district staff, assisted by the tahsildar at Kasganj. Civil jurisdiction is exercised by the munsif of Kasganj, appeals being heard by the judge of Aligarh. There are four police stations within the tahsil—at Kasganj, Soron, Sahawar, and Sirhpura—and the police circles coincide with the tahsil boundaries. The population of the tahsil, which during the decade 1881-1891, had sunk from 216,646 to 191,625, during the next ten years increased by no less than 38 per cent., standing at 265,216 in 1901. Hindus were, as in other tahsils of the district, in an immense majority, constituting nearly 87 per cent. of the total population, the remainder consisting of Musalmans, 12 per cent., and other religions 1·3 per cent. The latter included 286 Jains, 1,244 Christians, 1,523 Aryas, 396 Sikhs and two Jews. The most numerous Hindu caste was that of the Lodhas with 36,636 representatives, next in order coming Chamars with 34,086, Rajputs with 23,106, Brahmans with 21,274, Kachhis with 17,523, Ahirs with 15,769 and Gadariyas with 10,675. No other caste was found with a membership of over 10,000, though Banias with 9,104 were not far short of this limit. The leading Musalman caste was the Pathan, to the number of 4,705, Shaikhs, who head the list in the other tahsils, coming second with 3,747, while Julahas were close behind them with 3,489. Other castes mustering over 1,000 were Lohars, Rajputs, Bhistis, Faqirs, Qassabs, Dhunas and Saiyids. Sixty-seven per cent. of the population are directly dependent on the soil for their livelihood as zamindars, tenants, field-labourers and farm-servants; 5·4 per cent. are supported by general labour and another 5 per cent. consist of the servants of the community—the barbers, washermen, water-carriers, sweepers and so forth.

MAREHRA, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

This, the chief town of the pargana of the same name, lies 12 miles to the north of Etah in 27°44'N. and 78°35'E., and contained in 1901 a population of 8,681 persons. This total includes the inhabitants of four hamlets which are really quite separate from the town. A metalled road now runs from the railway station, which is outside the town to the west, right through the town from west to east, continuing as far as Marahchi, where it joins the metalled road from Kasganj to Etah. This road and the railway have been of great service to Marehra, and the direct *kachha* roads to Etah and Kasganj are now comparatively little used. The town is divided into eleven muhallas or wards, the most noteworthy of which are the Kamboh muhalla, so named after the caste of Musalmans inhabiting it, of whom some account has been already given; the Pirzada muhalla, occupied by the Saiyids of Marehra; and the Akabari muhalla, where the inhabitants are mostly Shaikhs. Musalmans form the most important portion of the population and have considerable influence throughout the district. Besides the new road, there is another wide metalled road crossing the town from north to south, but the smaller lanes are narrow, tortuous, and mostly undrained. There are two bazars, of which the one to the north is the smaller and has the poorer shops. The site is extensive and both the population and the buildings are much scattered. The houses are generally of brick, except to the south-east, where mud is the usual building material. To the north-east of the town and in close proximity to it is Miyan-ki-basti, the principal Saiyid quarter, surrounded by high walls with corner towers and two gateways. It forms practically a separate town, and is owned by the descendants of Saiyid Shah Barkatullah, now worshipped as a saint, whose tomb, which shelters the remains of the other members of his family, and the beautiful mosque adjoining it, are the only attractive features of the place. A room in the tomb is set apart as a school where the Quran is taught. Miyan-ki-basti contains many substantial brick houses, occupied chiefly by descendants of the Saiyid *pir*, who own 22 villages free of revenue in the Etah district granted for the support of the

shrine. However there appears to be a tendency to devote an increasing proportion of the income from these villages to private purposes and a decreasing proportion to the support of the shrine, and in the majority of cases it is questionable whether the freedom from assessment to revenue should continue.

There are two schools in Marehra: one under the district board; the other a branch of the M.A.-O. College at Aligarh. The latter suffers from want of funds. Marehra is the head-quarters of a police circle, and also contains a post-office, a hospital, a cattle-pound and an inspection bungalow.

The name Marehra, or Marhara as it is some times written, is locally provided with a fantastic derivation from the words "*marke hara kar diya,*" *i.e.* "utterly destroyed and made green." Tradition avers that to the north-east of the present site there used to be a village called Sarupganj, founded by one Sarup Kishan, a Rajput who in 695 *Hijri* (1295 A. D.) was put to death with some of his family by Ala-ud-din Muhammad Shah Khilji. In the following year, while the imperial forces were passing by Sarupganj, some servants of Ala-ud-din were maltreated and plundered by robbers who were traced to that village. The emperor gave orders for a general massacre of the inhabitants, and his command was carried out with such thoroughness that not only were all the people destroyed but the place itself was turned into jungle. Another derivation makes the name Manhara, referring the founding of the town to one Man Singh, Chauhan, after the expulsion of the Chauhans from Delhi at the close of the twelfth century. A third story explains the name by the legend that in 1299 Raja Mani Ram, the governor of the neighbouring territory, founded a town near the ruins of Sarupganj with the express permission of the emperor and called it Marhara, because he thereby made green (*hara*) what had been destroyed (*mara*). The town formerly contained three shrines of great repute only one of which is still intact, though the remains of the others are still visible. The ruined tombs contained the remains of Saiyid Abdul Jalil Bilgrami, who came here in 1017 *Hijri* (1608 A.D.), and of Saiyid Shah Jalil Bukhari, who settled here during the reign of Alamgir. The tomb still standing is that of Shah Barkatullah,

to which reference has already been made. It was built by Shujaat Khan, brother-in-law of the Farrukhabad Nawab, in 1142 *Hijri* (1729 A. D.), and the handsome mosque adjoining it was built by one Muhammad Afzal, a resident of Marehra, in 1145 *Hijri* (1732 A.D.). One of Babar's followers, Shaikh Khwajah Imad-ud-din Muhammad of a Kamboh family, a native of Multan, was appointed *amil* of Marehra about 1527 A.D., and in 1542, during the reign of Sher Shah, his two sons were appointed to the offices of *chaudhri* and *kanungo* of the pargana, then for the first time created. These posts were filled by descendants of the original holders until the occupation of the country by the British, when the office of *chaudhri* was abolished. During the reign of Akbar Marehra was the chief town of *dastur* Marehra and the residence of the officials. Until 1560 the fiscal administration had been under the direct management of the imperial officers, but in that year Akbar conferred the proprietary rights on Fateh Khan and Umr Khan, grandsons of Imad-ud-din, and Todar Mal divided it into two *pattis*, Har-Nilgaran and Har-Bhairon, the latter of which is now known as Ahmadnagar Bahmnoi. The Pirzadahs came here during the reign of Jahangir in 1608, and in 1713 Marehra was given in *jagir* to some Saiyids of Barha in the Muzaffarnagar district. These in 1738 transferred their rights in the Nilgaran *patti* to the Nawab of Farrukhabad, and their rights in the Bhairon *patti* to the Oudh Wazir, in whose possession with some short interruptions the town remained till the cession to the English in 1801 and 1802. Marehra continued to be of some slight importance until the cession, since which time it has gradually declined.

In 1872 Marehra was raised to the status of a municipality, but the experiment in self-government was not a success. In spite of its large population it is no more than a big village and its inhabitants have all the apathy of villagers, taking little or no interest in local affairs. Moreover owing to the nature of the site the protection of its octroi was well-nigh impossible. In 1904 the municipality was abolished and Marehra was made a notified area.

MAREHRA *pargana, tahsil* ETAH.

Pargana Marehra lies to the south of the Kali Nadi, forming a portion of the best of the three tracts into which the Etah district naturally resolves itself. It occupies the western and north-western portions of the Etah tahsil, being bounded on the west by pargana Sikandra Rao of Aligarh, on the south-west by the Jalesar tahsil, on the south-east by pargana Mustafabad of Mainpuri, and on the east and north by pargana Etah-Sakit and the Kasganj tahsil respectively. In shape the pargana resembles a somewhat irregular dumb-bell, the northern knob of which is to some extent influenced by the Kali Nadi, which forms its eastern boundary. Along the margin of the river is the usual belt of low-lying *tarai*, sloping gently up to the general level of the pargana, with a strip of sandy soil at the summit of the incline. The soils are generally light and sandy throughout this northern portion of the pargana. The "grip" and southern knob of the dumb-bell form a level plain of almost uniformly good soil. But the outer edges are generally speaking inferior to the central portion. It is as though, to continue the simile, there were a core of good metal covered with some lighter material. The total area of the pargana is 125,108 acres or 195·4 square miles, of which 74,459 acres are cultivated, 35,953 culturable and 12,441 incapable of being tilled. Of the area returned as culturable however, apart from 3,330 acres of old and new fallow, almost the whole consists of *usar* plains, where a few stunted *dhak* trees may grow or a little grass spring up in the rains. Such land will never repay cultivation, and there can be no doubt that the limit of profitable extension has been reached.

The facilities for irrigation are excellent. The main branch of the lower Ganges canal entering the pargana about the middle of its northern boundary runs in or near it for 18 miles, throwing off the Bewar branch on its way, while the southern portion is crossed by the Cawnpore and Etawah branches. There are 14 distributaries serving the pargana, and canal water is available everywhere except in four tracts ; the first includes the villages in the extreme south of the pargana, beyond the Etawah branch, the second the chain of villages along the western

edge of the lower Ganges canal, and the third and fourth two groups in the extreme north and north-east of the pargana. The villages in the two former groups are blessed with firm subsoil, and excellent *kachha* wells are easily made, lasting several years. In the two latter however the subsoil is sand, and only percolation wells are possible. The area over which irrigation is deficient is thus very small. It may be noted that the charge brought against the canals of causing *kachha* wells to collapse is not borne out by experience in this pargana. Of another charge however they cannot be altogether acquitted. There seems to be no doubt that the tendency to waterlogging in the north centre of the pargana, in the angle between the lower Ganges canal and its Bewar branch is to be attributed to the interference with the natural drainage caused by the canals, while they may be in part responsible for a similar defect in the south. But the Isan Nadi, which is here a sluggish stream with an ill-defined bed liable to floods and unequal to the rapid carrying off of heavy rains, is primarily answerable. And the canal officers have done much to improve matters by digging out the channel of the river. Elsewhere the pargana is adequately drained, the Kali Nadi in the north, the Karaon Nala in the centre, and the Arindh in addition to the Isan in the south, acting as efficient outlets for the surplus rainfall.

Wheat, alone or in combination, covers almost 40 per cent. of the entire cultivated area, *juar* 21 per cent. and maize 13 per cent. These crops moreover all show an increase since 1873, particularly maize, the area under which has multiplied twelve-fold. So also do garden crops, poppy, rice and sugar-cane: but the areas under these are small. Barley on the other hand shows a decrease, as also does cotton, while *bajra* is about stationary. The double-cropped area has apparently expanded to about twenty times its former extent, but in this as in other parganas the former area was probably under-stated. At present approximately one-third of the total cultivated area is twice cropped. Of the total holdings area 69 per cent. is held in occupancy tenure, 17 per cent. by tenants without rights of occupancy, and 7 per cent. by proprietors as their *sir*. The average incidence of the occupancy rental is now Rs. 5·19 per acre, a

rise of at least 33 per cent. since the 1873 settlement. The non-occupancy incidence has increased by no less than 71 per cent. —from Rs. 3·95 to Rs. 6·76. The soil rates range from Rs. 10-8-6 for wet *gauhan* to Re. 1-5-1 for dry *bhur*. Among land-owning tenures single *zamindari* predominates largely with 52,970 acres and 147 mahals. Next comes joint *zamindari* with 32,866 acres and 120 mahals. Coparcenary tenures are not so strongly represented as usual in this pargana, perfect *pattidari* only prevailing in 21,170 acres and imperfect *pattidari* in 11,977. One mahal of 60 acres is held in *bhaiyachara*. Among the single *zamindars* the most important are the Raja of Awa, Lal Umrao Singh of Pachon in the Aligarh district, Parsotam Narain of Farrukhabad, Rao Maharaj Singh of Kasganj and the Kambohs and Saiyids of Marehra. Thakurs, who are by far the largest owners, hold 40 per cent. of the pargana. Next come Musalmans and after them Banias, whose possessions now amount to 16 per cent. of the whole.

The pargana is excellently off for communications. The Cawnpore-Achnera Railway crosses the north of it with a station at Marehra, which is further connected by good metalled roads with both Etah and Kasganj. The Grand Trunk Road crosses the pargana at about its shortest diameter, while an unmetalled road runs through its entire length from Marehra to Jalesar. Marehra the only town is a notified area with 8,681 inhabitants. There are also a number of large villages.

Pargana Marehra was first formed by Ala-ud-din Khilji (1295—1315 A.D.) and has changed but little since its creation. In Akbar's reign the town of Marehra was the headquarters of a *dastur* in *sarkar* Koil of *subah* Agra. On the defeat of Jahandar Shah by Farrukhsiyar in 1713 A.D. the conqueror bestowed the entire pargana as a *jagir* on some minor adherents of his belonging to the Barha Saiyid family of Muzaffarnagar, who, finding themselves unable to control their turbulent Rajput tenantry, in 1738 farmed 117 villages to the Nawab of Farrukhabad and the remainder to Abdul Mansur Khan Safdar Jang, the Wazir of Oudh. This division was maintained until the cession, the Oudh portion being known as *kismat sani*, and the other as *kismat awwal*. In 1748 the latter passed back

nominally into the hands of the state by the defeat and death of Karim Khan the Bangash Nawab, and Nawal Rai was appointed manager ; but he was killed in the following year by Ahmad Khan, the deceased Nawab's brother. This brought the Wazir to Marehra and his troops massacred the inhabitants of the town. In 1751 the Marathas received Marehra in *jagir*, but returned it the following year to Ahmad Khan. In 1772 it again came into the possession of the Oudh Wazir, with whom it remained until the cession in 1801. In 1802 *kismat sani* also fell to the British, and the two were reunited.

MOHANPUR, *pargana* SAHAWAR, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This village lies 16 miles to the north-east of Etah in 27°43′N. and 78°55′E. The population in 1901 numbered 2,720 persons, a slight decrease since 1872, when it amounted to 2,968. The total area of the village is 935 acres, of which 734 are cultivated, and it is assessed at Rs. 2,180. The village contains a pound, a school and a post-office. A market is held in the bazar every Wednesday and Sunday, and a fair takes place once a year. Mohanpur was founded by Mohan Singh, a Solankhi *taluqdar* who held 27 villages in the Mohanpur *taluqa* and others elsewhere, all of which have now passed into the hands of the Bhikampur Afghans of Aligarh. The village is in a less flourishing condition than formerly as the trade which used to pass through it has now been diverted along the route of the railway.

Mohanpur is administered under the Mufussil Town Police Act (XX of 1856), and in 1908-09 contained 666 houses, of which 361 were assessed. The income from the house-tax for that year was Rs. 574, giving an incidence of Re. 1-9-5 per house assessed and Re. 0-3-5 per head of population ; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 752. The expenditure was Rs. 624, the chief items being Rs. 345 on account of police charges, Rs. 139-8-0 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment and Rs. 65-5-4 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

NARDAULI, *pargana* NIDHPUR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village lies close to the Ganges, 32 miles north-east of Etah, in 27°46′N. and 79°10′E., and in 1901 contained 3,791 inhabitants. The total area of the village is 4,405 acres, of which 2,878 are cultivated, and it is assessed at Rs. 4,195. There is a school in the village and a market is held on Wednesdays and Sundays. A religious fair takes place here annually in honour of Debi. According to local tradition at the time of the defeat of Pirthiraj the place was inhabited by Rawal Musalmans and Brahmans from the west, who for a hundred years got on amicably enough together. The Ganges flowed hard by, and numbers of pilgrims came to bathe in its water to the great enrichment of the Brahmans. The wealth acquired by the latter roused the cupidity of the Musalmans who then lived at Barhola and twelve villages in its vicinity, and they attacked and defeated the Brahmans. At this juncture three Gaur Thakurs named Sangman, Sari and Bari, from Gadda Gach Chakol in the Katehir country, came to bathe in the Ganges, and heard the lamentable story of the Brahmans. It was the custom of the Rawals to become intoxicated on the festival of the Dewali, and on that night, when they were all drunk, word was given by the Brahmans to the Gaurs, who fell upon and massacred the whole Musalman colony and took possession of their villages. The descendants of Sangman are the proprietors of Barhola and several villages in the vicinity to the present day.

NIDHAULI, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

This village, which lies ten miles from Etah in 27°34′N. and 78°44′E., contained in 1901 a population numbering 3,509 persons. There is a police outpost here replacing a police station abolished in 1909 and a post-office as well as a village school, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Saturday. The total area of the village lands is 1,311 acres, of which 639 are under cultivation, and it is assessed at Rs. 2,100. Nidhauli was founded by Daya Ram, Raja of Hathras, who destroyed a village of the same name about a mile and a half away. Daya Ram gave his new foundation the name of Narayanganj, but the old name survived in spite of him. Close to Nidhauli are

the remains of a fort built by Khushal Singh, *amil* of the Nawab of Farrukhabad. The Isan river flows to the north of the village, and a little to the south is the Cawnpore branch of the Ganges canal. Nidhauli is administered under the Mufussil Town Police Act (XX of 1856), and in 1908-09 contained 878 houses, of which 557 are assessed. The income from the house-tax in that year was Rs. 780, giving an incidence of Re. 1-6-5 per assessed house and Re. 0-3-7 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 995-11-6. The expenditure was Rs. 844-8-5, the chief items being Rs. 480-6-3 on account of police charges, Rs. 173 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment, and Rs. 114-8-0 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

NIDHPUR *pargana, tahsil* ALIGANJ.

Pargana Nidhpur occupies the northern portion of the Aliganj tahsil, separated from the Budaun district by the Ganges to the north and east. On the south-east is the Farrukhabad district. The Burhganga forms its southern boundary, dividing it from pargana Sahawar and Patiali, and for a few miles along its north-western border it marches with pargana Aulai. The whole pargana lies between the Ganges and Burhganga. The two rivers are only about five miles apart at the western extremity and even less a little further to the east, where the Burhganga takes a sharp bend to the north. From this point however they begin to diverge rapidly and the pargana soon attains its maximum width of about 10 miles. Its extreme length from west to east is about 17 miles, and the total area is 104,527 acres, or 163·3 square miles.

The surface rises gently from the Ganges till quite near the Burhganga, the descent to which, at first gradual, soon becomes very sudden, there being in places quite a cliff above the bed of this river. There is marked deterioration in the quality of the soil from north to south and from west to east, with the exception of a tract in the west centre where the river has cut in and carried away a quantity of the best land, besides flooding

considerable areas and leaving deposits of sand in others. A very striking feature of the pargana is a long row of sand hills some 20 feet high in Kharuiya Khalsa and Miao, which apparently consist entirely of sand blown from the river bed. They form a chain from west to east and are undoubtedly spreading, as new hills can be seen in process of formation and the fields in the neighbourhood are covered with a deposit of pure sand blown about by every gust of wind. The same process may be observed on a smaller scale in other parts of the pargana, the peculiarity of this particular range being its distance inland and the magnitude of the operations.

The whole tract may be described as *tarai*, though the lands in the centre are termed *danda*, a word which is also used, with a slight modification of meaning, to distinguish the permanent from the alluvial mahals. Generally speaking the soils consist of a thin layer of alluvium, which is known as *phatka* where very thin over the sand of the river-bed. Where sand covers better soil the mixture is known as *sibat*. As a rule, the lower the level the better the soil, except in the lands affected by soda efflorescence, which in the east of the pargana is chiefly found in the depressions. It is locally known as *bhadi*, not as *reh*, and the loam affected by it is termed *dumat bhadi*.

The pargana drains naturally into the Ganges and Burhganga, the watershed being nearer to the latter. The drainage of the northern part of the pargana is good, but the narrow tortuous stream of the Burhganga is unable to cope with the water poured into it when the rains are heavy, and the land along its bank and in the numerous depressions leading from it is consequently liable to waterlogging, while the *bhur* above it absorbs water by capillary action and becomes too chilled to bear crops. Most of the villages along the Burhganga are therefore liable to violent fluctuations. Much has however been done by the canal officers to improve the drainage by straightening and clearing the course of the river and digging a cut through the west of the pargana. Of the total area 50,421 acres were under cultivation in 1902 of which 3,702 were irrigated from wells and 950 from other sources. Water is near the surface, being found at about 8 to 10 feet, and a *kachha*

well can be dug at an almost nominal cost. The *dhenkli*, or pot and lever, is the usual method of working the wells. But irrigation is not much resorted to except for sugarcane, and even for this it is not required in the rich moist *tarai* land, which is locally defined as land that will grow sugarcane without irrigation. The *rabi* area considerably exceeds the *kharif*, the respective totals being 30,217 and 24,307 acres. This represents a great extension of the *rabi* of recent years, and is mainly due to increased cultivation of wheat which, alone or in combination, now occupies 81 per cent. of the *rabi* area. Apparently a series of years of heavy flood led to the destruction of the *kharif* harvests in many villages, thereby inducing cultivators to reserve their energies for the *rabi*, which gives a more certain return. But much of the wheat is grown in inferior soils and the return is small. Barley, gram and peas, and poppy fill nearly all the remaining *rabi* area, the last having substantially increased, being now largely grown round the villages. In the *kharif* season *bajra* and *juar* are almost equally common and cover half the total area, though both have been sacrificed to the *rabi*. A good deal of sugarcane is grown, as also of cotton, though the last named now covers only a third of its old area. There has been an enormous increase in the area under maize, doubtless due to the spread of the practice of double-cropping. The general improvement in the character of the crops and the increase in the value of the produce have been accompanied by a large rise in rents. On the occupancy area, which is 53 per cent. of the whole, the average incidence is Rs. 2·83, a rise of 30 per cent. since last settlement, while the rise in the non-occupancy incidence has been still greater, amounting to 55 per cent. The latter now stands at Rs. 2·59, the fact that the occupancy tenants hold the better land accounting for their higher rents. Kachhis, Brahmans, Thakurs, Ahirs and Chamars are the principal cultivating castes.

The pargana is essentially one of small landholders, many of the villages, such as Barhaula, Sinaudi and Nardauli, belonging to enormous bodies of Thakurs, who are bad revenue payers. Joint *zamindari* is the chief form of tenure, accounting for 34,223 acres ivided among 978 proprietors : 26,246 acres are

held in imperfect *pattidari* among 1,495 co-sharers, and 22,405 acres in perfect *pattidari* among 1,248 co-sharers; 61 proprietors hold 15,428 acres in single *zamindari*, and 7 mahals, occupying 4,916 acres, are held in *bhaiyachara* tenure by 477 co-sharers. Half the pargana is owned by Thakurs. Weekly markets are held at Kadirganj, Nardauli and Sikandarpur Bais, but these have no trade and the surplus produce is sent to Ganj Dundwara.

There is a ferry at Kadirganj and two unmetalled roads lead from the village to Ganj Dundwara and Patiali. For the rest there are only cart tracks which are not bad except just above the Burhganga, where the sand is very heavy.

The pargana was formed out of *mahal* Budaun during the 18th century, and in Akbar's reign belonged to *dastur* and *sarkar* Budaun. It was transferred in 1845 to the Patiali subdivision, now the Etah district.

NORAI, *pargana and tahsil* ETAH.

This village in 27°37′N. and 78°45′E. lies four miles to the north of Etah and in 1901 contained 2,579 inhabitants. The total area of the village is 1,636 acres, of which 1,299 are cultivated, and it is assessed at Rs. 4,100. Formerly a Chauhan village, it has now passed into the hands of Kayasths, the leading zamindar being Bala Parshad. There is a school in the village and a market is held in the bazar every Sunday and Thursday. A fine Hindu temple is the only object of interest.

PACHLANA *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Pachlana is roughly triangular in shape, with its apex to the north. To its west is the Aligarh district, to the south pargana Bilram, and to the north and east pargana Faizpur Badaria, with the Burhganga forming a natural boundary. The length of the pargana from north to south is eight and a half miles. The total area is 25,311 acres or 39·5 square miles. The pargana is divided naturally into two parts: the *tarai* land along the Burhganga, and the upland, with broken sandy ground lying between the two. The *tarai* contains some excellent soil bearing rich crops, but is liable to suffer from flooding

after excessive rains. The drainage has recently been improved by the construction of the cut known as the *Ganda nala,* but the tract is not yet secure. The slope from the *tarai* to the uplands consists of a soil known locally as *adh kachha* which, though sandy in appearance, often bears fine crops. On the uplands the soil is light but improves towards the west. For some distance inland from the *tarai* it is somewhat precarious, being liable to suffer from drought if the rainfall is deficient and from outbreaks of *kans* when it is excessive.

The introduction, since the 1873 settlement, of canal water into the west and south of the pargana has considerably improved cultivation in that region, 1,468 acres being now irrigated from that source. In all, 4,089 acres out of the cultivated total of 18,663 were irrigated in the year of record, 1309 *fasli*. Only 1,550 acres were returned as absolutely incapable of cultivation, though it is probable that little of the so-called culturable waste, amounting to 4,062 acres, would ever repay the cost of cultivation. Only 227 acres were planted with groves, an unusually small proportion. The *kharif* and *rabi* areas are nearly equal, the former being a little the greater. Wheat is the principal staple in the *rabi,* covering 5,050 acres out of 9,741. Next in importance is barley with 3,548 acres, while gram accounts for 1,097 acres. In the *kharif* out of a total area of 10,800 acres 5,207 acres, or nearly half, are occupied by *bajra* either alone or in combination with *arhar*. Much less *juar* is grown, only 1,670 acres being sown with this crop. Maize has advanced very much in popularity of recent years, now covering 1,400 acres instead of 535 as at the 1873 settlement. This is due to the immense increase in the practice of double-cropping rendered possible by the introduction of the canals. The *dofasli* area, which did not exist 30 years ago, is now 1,946 acres. There is a good deal of cotton and in the *tarai* a certain amount of sugarcane.

The principal cultivating castes are Chamars, Thakurs, Ahirs and Lodhas, the last being by far the best. Kachhis are rare and so is their special style of close cultivation. Fifty-five per cent. of the tenants' area is held by occupancy tenants, and the average size of their holdings is 5·39 acres.

Non-occupancy tenants hold 42 per cent. of the area between them with an individual average of only 2·94 acres. The size of holdings has greatly decreased since the 1873 settlement, when the average was 10·10 acres and 5·21 acres for occupancy and non-occupancy tenants respectively. Musalmans are now the largest proprietors, having increased their possessions from 24 per cent. of the whole at the last settlement to 37·1 per cent. A still more remarkable rise is that of Banias from ·8 to 21·7 per cent. The acquisitions of both these communities have been made at the expense of the Thakurs who, formerly masters of 67·4 per cent. of the whole, now only own 31·5 per cent. They are for the most part Gaurahar Rajputs, descendants of the zamindars at the time of the cession. Their ancestors were crippled financially by the exorbitant revenue demands of the early years of British rule : and in spite of the reductions made later on it was noted at the last settlement that they were for the most part "in extreme poverty and their estates in a bad state of cultivation." The wet seasons from 1884 to 1890 were the last straw, and during the next 15 years no less than 34 per cent. of the total area of the pargana changed hands, the measure of relief granted coming too late to assist the original owners and benefiting only the money-lenders who supplanted them. Of the six Aligarh Musalmans who between them own 9,124 acres five are money-lenders—a remarkable circumstance. The principal Bania landholders are Hoti Lal and other Bahoras of Kasganj. But the majority of the proprietors are small owners. The greater part of the land is held in single and joint *zamindari*, the former occupying 10,120 acres and the latter 6,535; perfect *pattidari* prevails in another 4,344 acres divided among 109 owners, and imperfect *pattidari* in 3,144 acres with 75 proprietors.

The pargana is deficient in means of communication, containing only one fourth-class road, from Kasganj to Kumrahwa. The Kasganj-Soron road passes close to its eastern boundary however, and there is little traffic to be provided for. There are no markets within the pargana, but Kasganj, on the railway, is not far from the border. Pachlana is an old Akbari pargana and belonged to *dastur* Marehra, *sarkar* Koil and *subah* Agra. It formed part

of the Aligarh district until 1856 when it was transferred to Etah.

PATIALI, *pargana* PATIALI, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

The village, in 27°42′N. and 72°5′E., lies on the old bank of the Ganges, 22 miles to the north-east of Etah, and in 1901 contained 4,243 inhabitants. It is a very old town mentioned in the Mahabharata, and two derivations of its name are current. One is that when Drupada was ruler of Panchala, Drona, the preceptor of the Pandavas, left the kingdom, whereupon its affairs began to decline. The Brahmans were consulted and delivered the opinion that prosperity would only be restored if a part of the realm were given to Drona. This was done, and Drona received the tract of land extending from Kampil in the Farrukhabad district to Patiali, which was therefore called Batiari, from the word *batna*, to divide, as the division of Raja Drupada's kingdom took place there. In commemoration of the transaction the image of the deity Koleswar was set up in Kampil and that of Jageswar in Patiali. The other story relates that one Patiya, an Ahir woman, used to carry curds to the Rani, who in a generous mood gave her the piece of land on which the village now stands, and it was therefore called after her. The original *zamindars* were Ahirs, but they have long since been displaced by Kayasths and Brahmans.

The present village is situated on the old bank of the Ganges, which here rises abruptly but is good deal cut up by ravines. The unmetalled road from Etah enters the village from the south, with a *sarai* to the west of it and a large block of brick houses belonging to Kayasths on the east. From the *sarai* a road, partly metalled and partly paved, leads across the high mound on which the village is built to the Burhganga. The mound consists in great part of the natural bank of the river, but has been considerably raised by the ruins of the mud and brick houses which have been built on it from time immemorial. On either side is the Patiali bazar, with small but substantial houses made of the bricks and blocks of kankar taken from the old fort. On this road are the pound, police station and school, and a little beyond them the roadway leading to the fort is reached. The fort was built by Shahab-ud-din Ghori, and covered an area of 117,124

square yards. It was surrounded by strong thick walls of block kankar and by a moat, but the greater part of the materials of which the walls were constructed has been carried away by the inhabitants of Patiali to build their houses, or has been made use of by Government officials for the erection of bridges, police stations and other public buildings. Many of the kankar blocks still remaining in the walls are carved on one side, showing that they must have formed parts of other buildings before being used for the fort. According to tradition numerous temples were pulled down to supply material for the fort, the images they contained being buried beneath the foundation by the conqueror. Not a trace remains of the dwellings of the officials which were within the fort. In 1811 a bungalow was built within the enclosure for the European officers stationed at Patiali, which was then the headquarters of the district. Only a portion of the walls of this building still remain. The existing inspection bungalow was built in 1845 A.D. Patiali is now a decaying old town without trade or manufactures, though the remains of old buildings show that it has seen better days. In the time of the Rohillas Raja Har Parshad, Kayasth, a resident of Patiali, obtained considerable power under Hafiz Rahmat Khan of Bareilly, and was appointed representative of the Rohilkhand nobles at the court of Nadir Shah when he seized upon Delhi in 1739. He bought many villages in the pargana and built the large enclosure of houses to be seen at the southern entrance of the town. His family still reside there and many of its members have been in government service. Munshi Het Ram, descended from an uncle of Har Parshad, did good service during the Mutiny, saving the *thana* records at Patiali and keeping the authorities at Agra informed of the movements of the rebels. Two other members of the same family, Munshis Kanchi Parshad and Rai Narsinghbhan, built a fine temple which they endowed with several villages. Munshi Bhagwat Das Varma, the son of Kanchi Parshad and nephew of Het Ram, has founded and endowed a school known as the Radice Anglo-Sanskrit Kayastha Pathshala which is doing well.

Patiali has been the scene of many battles, among which may be mentioned the engagement between Ahmad Khan, the

Afghan Nawab of Farrukhabad, and Safdar Jang, Nawab of Oudh and Wazir of the empire, which took place in 1749, and the brilliant action in which Colonel Seaton and Major Hudson defeated the mutineers in 1857.

Patiali is administered under the Mofussil Town Police Act (XX of 1856), and in 1908-09 contained 1,076 houses, of which 414 were assessed. The income from the house-tax for that year was Rs. 804, giving an incidence of Re. 1-15-1 per house assessed and Re. 0-3-0 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 1,166. The expenditure was Rs. 998, the chief items being Rs. 642 on account of police charges, Rs. 204 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment and Rs. 50 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force here as in the other Act XX towns of the district. The total area of the village lands is 4,963 acres, of which 3,022 are under cultivation, and the land revenue is Rs. 2,125. The town contains a post-office, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Saturday.

PATIALI *pargana, tahsil* ALIGANJ.

Pargana Patiali lies in the Kali Nadi-Burhganga Duab. The latter river forms its boundary along the north-east, separating it from pargana Nidhpur. On the south-east it marches with pargana Azamnagar ; on the south-west and north-west with parganas Sirhpura and Sahawar of tahsil Kasganj. Its length from north-west to south-east, amounts to 12½ miles, and its greatest breadth to some 7 miles. Its area according to the recent survey is 42,053 acres or 65·7 square miles. The pargana is divided into two sharply defined tracts—the upland or *bangar*, and the lowland or *tarai*. The latter is the area between the old high bank of the Ganges and the bed of the Burhganga. The soil in this latter tract is all somewhat alluvial in character but varies greatly in quality. Much of it is only a thin layer over sand, but along the edge of the river, and in various depressions, there is rich land growing sugarcane and rice without irrigation. The Burhganga is a narrow sluggish stream with a tortuous course and the whole *tarai* area is in consequence liable to flooding. The boundary of this tract, the old high bank of the Ganges, is almost everywhere a

sharply defined cliff somewhat cut into ravines by the rush of rain water. The upland, except for a few villages in the extreme north-west, where there is some good loam, consists almost entirely of poor sandy soil, which will not stand constant cultivation but requires frequent intervals of rest. Without irrigation a very slight deficiency in the rainfall causes the crops to wither, while still more damage is done by cycles of excessive rain, the rise in the water-level causing the *kans* grass, which is always present though dormant in normal seasons, to spring up luxuriantly and drive the plough off the fields. Sir Charles Crosthwaite, who at the 1873 settlement assessed this pargana, remarks of the *kans* that it "flourishes here almost as well as it does in the Banda district, and appears to be as hard to eradicate."

And yet he was inspecting the pargana when it was near if not at the zenith of its prosperity. The pargana probably suffered more severely than any other in the district in the wet cycle extending from about 1884 onwards, which caused an extraordinary outbreak of *kans* and a marked diminution in the cultivated area, necessitating reductions of revenue in all but 15 villages. Much has since been done to prevent the recurrence of such a disastrous collapse, with the result that during the last decade *kans* has entirely disappeared. The bed of the Burhganga has been cleared of weeds and is now examined annually by the canal officers to prevent further blocking of the waterway, while the villages of the south-west and south have been relieved by drainage cuts.

Of the total area 28,041 acres are cultivated; 11,029 are returned as culturable, though 6,425 of these are waste land which is never likely to repay the cost of cultivation; 2,192 acres are utterly barren; and 682 acres are planted with groves. Rather more than a quarter of the cultivated area is irrigated, mostly from the Fatehgarh branch canal, which passes right across the pargana and gives water to nearly the whole of it except the *tarai.* There however irrigation is rarely resorted to, and when required is readily obtained from *dhenkli* wells. The style of cultivation has immensely improved of recent years and the *rabi* area, which at the 1873 settlement was not much more than half the *kharif* area, now actually

exceeds it by over 2,000 acres ; most of the increase is due to wheat, which is grown wherever canal irrigation is available and occupies, alone or in combination, 69 per cent. of the *rabi* area. Barley and gram with peas cover most of the remainder, but both poppy and garden crops have greatly advanced in popular favour, the former being grown to six times its old extent. *Bajra* is the principal *kharif* staple and occupies along with *arhar* considerably more than half the land at that harvest. Next in importance comes *juar*, covering 3,499 acres. A considerable amount of maize, rice, sugarcane and cotton is also grown, though the last named has greatly declined in area.

Of the tenants' area 48 per cent. is held in occupancy tenure at an average rate of Rs. 2·23 per acre, the non-occupancy incidence being Rs. 2·02 per acre. This comparatively low figure is due to the fact that the occupancy tenants hold the best land. The chief cultivating castes are Kachhis, Thakurs, Brahmans, Ahirs, Musalmans and Chamars. Among the proprietary castes Thakurs are the largest owners, though Kayasths hold nearly as much, Brahmans and Musalmans following next in order. There are no large resident proprietors and the pargana is mostly in the hands of petty landlords, the total number of proprietors being no less than 3,484 and the average area owned by each less than 13 acres. Only 12 per cent. of the pargana is held in single *zamindari*, 65 per cent. of the whole being owned by large communities in perfect and imperfect *pattidari* and 18 per cent. in joint *zamindari*.

Communications with the outside world have been much improved by the construction of the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway, which crosses the pargana with stations at Patiali and Ganj Dundwara. These two towns are also connected with one another and with Kasganj and Aligarh by an unmetalled but raised and bridged road, while a similar road leads from Patiali to Etah *viâ* Sirhpura. Other unmetalled roads run from Ganj Dundwara to Sirhpura and Kadirganj, and from Patiali to Kadirganj and Dhumri, and it is proposed to metal the Dhumri road in order to link up the new metalled road between Etah and Aliganj at its central point with the railway: but these roads, owing to the generally sandy nature of the soil, are not particularly

suitable for wheeled traffic. Patiali and Ganj Dundwara are both Act XX towns, and the latter is a flourishing little place, the chief mart of the neighbourhood and the exporting centre for agricultural produce. Patiali, which was once the district headquarters, is now somewhat decayed. Patiali is an old Akbari pargana belonging to *sarkar* Kanauj and *subah* Agra. It was included at the cession in the Farrukhabad district, in which it remained till the formation of the Etah district in 1845.

PILWA, *pargana* MAREHRA, *tahsil* ETAH.

Pilwa or Pilua lies six and a half miles from Etah in 27°37′N. and 78°39′E., and in 1901 contained 2,051 inhabitants. The total area of the village is 2,058 acres, of which 1,135 are cultivated, and the revenue assessed on it is Rs. 3,500. The zamindars are Brahmans, Kunwar Man Singh being the most important. There is a school in the village, and a market is held in the bazar every Sunday and Wednesday. Pilwa is situated on the Grand Trunk Road and was once the headquarters of a police circle.

RAMPUR, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

Rampur, or Rampur Raja, lies 4 miles north of Aliganj and 32 miles from Etah in 27°32′N. and 79°13′E. In 1901 the population numbered 3,537. The town is administered under the Mufassil Town Police (Act XX of 1856,) and is a busy little place with some trade. There is a market in the bazar on Sunday and Wednesday and an annual fair is held here in honour of Debi. Rampur is chiefly remarkable as the residence of Rani Kishan Kunwar, widow of the late Raja Ramchandra Sen, a lineal descendant of the last Rathor Raja of Kanauj and tenth in descent from Raja Ram Sahai, who founded the town in 1513 *Sambat* (1456 A.D.). The Rampur house is looked upon as the head of the Rathors in this part of India. The town contains a post office and a school and there is a metalled road four miles long to Rudain railway station.

In 1908-09 the income of the town was Rs. 694, derived from a house-tax assessed on 482 out of the 739 houses which it

contains. The total receipts in that year, including the opening balance, were Rs. 914 and the expenditure was Rs. 712-5-0. Of the latter the chief items were Rs. 412 on account of police charges, Rs. 130 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment and Rs. 95 for local improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

ROHINA MIRZAPUR, *pargana and tahsil* JALESAR.

This large village, in 27°23′N. and 78°35′E., lies in the south-eastern corner of the Jalesar tahsil and in 1901 contained 2,795 inhabitants. The total area is 3,944 acres, of which 2,306 are cultivated, and it is assessed to land revenue at Rs. 7,650. The proprietor is the Raja of Awa. The village is entirely agricultural and contains no buildings of interest and does no trade.

SAHAWAR, *pargana* SAHAWAR, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This town lies 24 miles to the north-east of Etah in 27°48′N. and 78°51′E. The population in 1901 numbered 5,055 persons, having remained almost stationary since 1872 when it amounted to 5,156. The traditional account of the town states that it was founded by Raja Naurang Deb, a Chauhan Thakur, who called it Naurangabad. It was soon after attacked by the Musalmans, when the Raja fled to Sirhpura to invoke the aid of the Raja of that place. Meanwhile all the people who remained in Naurangabad were forcibly converted to Islam. Returning with a force from Sirhpura, Naurang succeeded in expelling the Musalmans, and then changed the name of the town to Sahawar as it was with the aid of good people (*sahaila*) that he recovered possession of it. The present proprietors are Pathans, of whom the most important is Chaudhri Nurullah Khan, whose estate was recently released by the Court of Wards. The town is administered under the Mufassil Town Police (Act XX of 1856) and is the headquarters of a police circle. Though it has the advantage of a railway station on the Cawnpore-Achnera railway the town does little trade, such business as is done in the small bazar, where a

market is held every Tuesday and Saturday, being of a petty description. The town contains a post-office, a school and a pound, but no buildings or remains of any antiquity except the tomb of a *faqir* named Taj-ud-din.

In 1908-09 the town contained 1,330 houses, of which 653 were assessed. The income from the house-tax was Rs. 1,250, giving an incidence of Re. 1-14-8 per assessed house, and Re. 0-3-11 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 1,377. The expenditure was Rs. 1,170, the chief items being Rs. 713 on account of police charges, Rs. 348 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment, and Rs. 5 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

SAHAWAR-KARSANA *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Sahawar-Karsana is separated on the west by the Kali Nadi from parganas Bilram and Marehra. On the north are parganas Soron and Aulai. To the north-east the Burhganga is the boundary between it and pargana Nidhpur, and on the east and south it marches with parganas Patiali and Sirhpura. The total area is 73,409 acres or 114·7 square miles. The pargana is divided naturally into three distinct tracts: the lowlands of the Burhganga, the upland, and the valley of the Kali Nadi. The first is here, as everywhere else in the district, very precarious, the stream being quite unable, in years of heavy rainfall, to cope with the water poured into it; though in favourable years the rich moist *tarai* along the course of the river and in the depressions of the valley bears splendid crops of sugar-cane and rice. South of the *tarai* proper is a stretch of poorer soil, either uneven hillocky *bhur* or *phatka*, with a thin layer of good soil over sand. At the foot of the high bank the level usually sinks and a tract of better soil is met with. The northern and southern edges of the upland are marked by belts of sand varying considerably in breadth. The *bhur* on the Ganges high bank is superior to that of the Kali Nadi and is interrupted just west of the town of Sahawar by an outcrop of really good loam. Between these two sand ridges lies an uneven plain consisting mostly of *dumat* and *usar*

but broken by two or three depressions from south-west to south-east which form the main drainage lines of the pargana and are marked by ridges of *bhur*, often of considerable width, on one or both margins. The tract of land in the Kali Nadi valley varies a good deal in width according as the stream is near the eastern or western bank, and though there is no alluvion the liability of the valley to flooding in the rains makes it ill-adapted for *kharif* crops. Wheat however thrives excellently except in years of exceptionally heavy rain, when the soaked soil does not dry in time to prepare it for the *rabi*. The whole area is thus precarious. The natural drainage of the tract is bad.

The watershed lies close to the crest of the Ganges high bank and the main line of drainage is towards the Kali Nadi. But the drainage lines are neither well-defined nor continuous, consisting of a series of shallow depressions and swamps interrupted by mounds of sand or beds of hard clay-like *usar*, and the whole country is therefore liable to super-saturation in seasons of heavy rainfall. The depressions then cannot hold the water poured into them and it spills from one into the other, destroying the crops in the intervening lands; and while the lower levels are swamped, in the upper the moisture reaches the roots of the *kans*—which is everywhere dormant in the light soil—and stimulates it into a luxuriant growth which drives the plough off the fields. The extent of the distress which can be caused in this tract by excessive rain may be judged by the fact that the cultivated area, which at the 1873 settlement had stood at 59,790 acres, fell in 1890-91 to 34,473 acres—a decrease of no less than 42 per cent. Much has been done of recent years to improve the drainage. The bed of the Burhganga has been cleared of weeds and straightened, and is now annually inspected by the canal officers while a number of drains have been dug connecting its channel with the depressions in its valley. In the upland, besides minor cuts, two elaborate works, known as the Sirhpura and Mohanpur drainage systems, have been constructed. The former has two main branches. The longer starts from Behta, a village on the Soron-Sahawar border, and follows a depression which is at first well marked, but disappears near the village of Shaikhpur Handa. The drain here cuts across a

hard *usar* plain and then picks up a line of shallow depressions, finally discharging into the Kali Nadi at Laungpur, a little south of Sirhpura. The other branch starts from M. Thara Chitra in the centre of the pargana, and after a somewhat tortuous course, during which it links together a number of disconnected hollows, joins the first mentioned branch near Sirhpura. The main branch of the Mohanpur system starts just north of the village of that name and serves the north-east of Sahawar and the north and east of Sirhpura, eventually passing out into pargana Azamnagar and so into the Kali Nadi. A third important drain takes its rise near M. Banupura in Sahawar and discharges into the Kali Nadi at Norai. It serves the south-west of Sahawar and the west of Sirhpura.

Of the total area 59,392 acres, or 81 per cent., were cultivated in the year of record 1309 *fasli*, a difference of 1 per cent. from the area at the former settlement in 1873. Only 4,142 acres were returned as barren, while the culturable waste was given as 5,715 acres, an increase of 5,685 acres over the figures of the last settle ment; this was due to a difference in classification at survey, all land capable of growing a little grass or a few *dhak* trees being included as culturable, though never likely to come under the plough. Groves in 1902 covered 950 acres, or 479 acres less than at the 1873 settlement, but the pargana is well-wooded.

Irrigation is excellent in the northern half of the pargana where nearly every village gets water from the Fatehgarh branch canal and more than half the total cultivated area is irrigated. Elsewhere however *kachha* wells are the main source of supply and except round Sahawar, where the subsoil is good, give little water and do not last more than two or three years. In all 22,939 acres are irrigated,—13,978 from the canal, 7,769 from wells and 1,192 from other sources. In this as in the neighbouring parganas the *rabi* area has largely increased at the expense of the *kharif*, the respective percentages being 57·7 and 53·3 in 1902 compared with 37·3 and 63 at the 1873 settlement, and the area from which two crops are taken has risen from an insignificant 4 per cent. to 11·3 per cent. The *rabi* gain is chiefly due to wheat which, alone and in combination, now occupies 40·7 per cent. of the cultivated area instead of 17·6 per cent. as

before. Barley is only grown to about half its former extent, but gram and peas have doubled their area, and poppy, which was formerly unknown, now covers 742 acres. The *kharif* losses are mainly caused by the declining popularity of *bajra* which, though still the principal staple, now covers only 11,170 acres or about half its former area. Its place has been to some extent taken by *juar* and maize, which now account for 8,706 and 3,971 acres respectively, the increase in the case of the latter being more than thirty-fold. Sugarcane has nearly doubled in amount but is still only 2·6 per cent. of the whole, and rice is grown to about the same extent. Cotton has remained nearly stationary over 3,490 acres.

The principal cultivating castes are Lodhas, Kachhis, Brahmans, Chamars, Thakurs and Musalmans, 52 per cent. of the tenants' area is held in occupancy tenure at an average rate of Rs. 3·23 per acre. This represents a rise of 43 per cent. in 30 years, which is higher than the rise in non-occupancy rates; these have advanced from Rs. 2·78 to Rs. 3·42 per acre. As in Soron where the same phenomenon has occurred, this is due in part to the prevalence of *nautor* rates on much of the newly broken-up land. Partly also it is due to the shrinkage in the occupancy area which has decreased by 10,448 acres, mostly inferior soil.

Musalmans are the largest proprietors, still holding nearly 50 per cent. of the pargana, though they have lost a fifth of their old possessions. There are two considerable estates, one belonging to Chaudhri Nurullah Khan of Sahawar, and the other to the Pathans of Mohanpur, a branch of the Aligarh Dadon family. Brahmans hold about 13 per cent., having somewhat increased their possessions mainly through the acquisitions of the Brahman money-lenders of Amanpur. Thakurs, mostly Solankhis, still hold nearly 7,000 acres, but are losing steadily, being for the most part, like the majority of the old zamindars, in poor and embarrassed circumstances. The money-lending classes have all gained, Banias now owning 4,302 acres or 6 per cent., Mahajans 1,956 acres, and Parsis, a class who did not figure in the list of proprietors 30 years ago, 1,605 acres. The prevailing tenures are single and joint *zamindari*, which between them take up

nearly three-quarters of the whole ; 12,255 acres are held in perfect *pattidari* and 4,257 in imperfect *pattidari*, while 3 mahals, comprising 1,307 acres, are held in *bhaiyachara* tenure by an enormous proprietary body of 483 co-sharers. With this last exception however the holdings are of fair size, the average being 36 acres—very much more than in either of the neighbouring parganas of Soron or Sirhpura. The large number of transfers during the currency of the 1873 settlement, amounting to 41 per cent. of the whole area, cannot therefore here be attributed to the inadequate size of the holdings, but it may be attributed to the heavy original revenue demand and the delay in granting relief.

The pargana is essentially agricultural. The only Act XX town is Sahawar, which contains 5,055 inhabitants and is a decayed little place in spite of the railway which now runs through it. A few grain-dealers and money-lenders reside at Amanpur, but most of the agricultural produce of the pargana finds its way to the markets of Kasganj and Ganj Dundwara just over the border. Communications with the outside world have been much improved by the opening of the new Cawnpore-Achnera Railway with stations at Badahri Kalan and Sahawar within the pargana, as well as at Kasganj and Ganj Dundwara. But apart from the railway the means of communication are bad and there has been no improvement. The pargana is dependent on unmetalled roads which its light and sandy soils render most unsatisfactory. Such as they are, they connect Sahawar with Etah, Kasganj and Ganj Dundwara, while a particularly bad road runs from Kasganj to Sirhpura, crossing the Etah-Sahawar road at Amanpur. Sahawar is an old Akbari pargana belonging to *sarkar* Kanauj and *subah* Agra. Karsana was formerly known as Malikpur-Sikandarpur, and in Akbar's reign as Sikandarpur-Atreji, from the villages of Atranji Khera and Sikandrabad, opposite to it on the Kali Nadi. Tradition relates that, owing to some quarrel amongst the zamindars, sixty villages of Solankhi Rajputs were separated from Sahawar in the reign of Akbar, and formed into parganas Sikandarpur-Atreji. At the cession they were included in Etawah and, after subsequently forming a portion of the Mainpuri district, were annexed to Etah in 1845.

SAKIT, *pargana* ETAH-SAKIT, *tahsil* ETAH.

This town, in 27°27′N. and 78°50′E., lies ten miles to the south-east of Etah, and in 1901 contained 4,261 inhabitants. It is a much isolated town and has seen better days. On the hill, once crowned by a fort, there remain now only the kankar blocks forming the foundations of the great mosque erected here in the thirteenth century when the town was an important Musalman stronghold. On the highest site in the town is a half-finished temple remarkable for its Saracenic arches supported on slender pillars of richly carved Agra stone. It was begun by an ancestor of Lala Awadh Narain, the head of the leading Kayasth family of the town, a commissariat servant who grew rich during the Sikh war but did not live to complete the work. The town clusters round this temple, which from its position, forms a conspicuous landmark. On the north a fine bridge of block kankar quarried from the foundations of the old fort carries into the town the metalled road that connects Sakit with the Grand Trunk Road. Through the bazar the road is metalled and the shops are well built and ornamented with flat pointed fronts. There are many substantial houses occupied by Kayasths and a number of the smaller houses are built of brick. Sakit contains a school, a pound and a police station, the latter standing on the site of the old fort, and a market is held in the bazar every Tuesday and Saturday, when a small trade is done in food grains and cotton. The town is administered under the Mufassil Town Police Act (XX of 1856) and in 1908-09 contained 1,110 houses, of which 670 were assessed. The income from the house-tax in that year was Rs. 1,001 giving an incidence of Re. 1-7-10 per assessed house and Re. 0-3-9 per head of population; while the total receipts, including the opening balance, were Rs. 1,274. The expenditure was Rs. 1,042, the chief items being Rs. 514 on account of police charges, Rs. 256 for the upkeep of the conservancy establishment and Rs. 169 for local public improvements. The United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892, is in force in this as in the other Act XX towns of the district.

Tradition ascribes the founding of Sakit to Raja Sakat Deo, a Chauhan Thakur descended from Raja Prithiraj of Delhi, who

built a fort here which he called after his own name; but the Musalmans must have early attempted a settlement here, as is shown by the inscription belonging to the old mosque, which states: "This blessed mosque was built in the reign of the Imam, the lord of the world, the king of mankind, Ghiyas-ud-dunya-wa-ud-din Abul Muzaffar Balban, the Sultan......in the days of Qutlugh, the royal......in A. H. 684"—(1285 A. D.).

In 1488 Bahlol Lodi fell sick and died at Sakit. After this the Chauhans must again have obtained possession of the place, for in 1520 we find Sawant Sen, a descendant of Sakat Deo, opposing Ibrahim Lodi. He was however expelled and obliged to take refuge in Rajaur; and the conqueror settled here a colony of Kont Musalmans to whom no doubt is due the erection of the second mosque, of which there survives an inscription containing the following words:

"...The building of this blessed mosque took place during the reign of the Imam, the lord of the world, the king of mankind, Farid-ud-dunya-wa-ud-din Abul Muzaffar Sher Shah, the just king......and it was in the days of Saud Khan, son of Masaud Khan, on the 7th Sha'ban, 947 A.H."—(7th December, 1540).

Another mosque contains an inscription * showing that it was erected in 1563, during the reign of Akbar, by the Khwajah Ibrahim Badakhshan of the *Akbarnama*. The descendants of the colony founded by Ibrahim Lodi still reside in the town, but the proprietary rights passed out of their hands to some Saksena Kayasths, who held the town until 1816, when they were sold up for arrears of land revenue, and one Shaikh Ghulam Ahmad, whose heirs are still in possession, became proprietor. The more important portion of the population now comprises Kont Musalmans, Shaikhs and Saksena Kayasths. Sakit and its neighbourhood were long renowned for a particularly turbulent set of dacoits who infested it and gave a great deal of trouble to the imperial authorities in the sixteenth century.

SANODHI KHAS, *pargana* NIDHPUR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village lies at a distance of 30 miles from Etah in 27°45′N. and 79°10′E. In 1901 the population numbered 2,443

* For this and the other inscriptions see Proceedings A. S. B., 1874, p. 104.

persons, mostly Gaur Rajputs who trace their descent to Sangman Singh, of whom some account has been given under NARDAULI. The total area of the village is 5,819 acres, of which 4,034 are cultivated, and the land revenue assessed on it is Rs. 3,345. The village contains a school.

SARAI AGHAT, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This little town lies in the extreme south-eastern corner of the district in 27°29′N. and 79°18′E. In 1901 it contained 2,159 inhabitants, or 1,115 less than in 1872. The town was administered under the Mufassil Town Police Act (XX of 1856) until 1st April 1909, when the provisions of the Act were withdrawn; it contains a post-office, pound and school, and a market is held in the bazar every Sunday and Wednesday. Sarai Aghat is made up of two villages divided by the ravines of the Kali Nadi — Sarai on the east and Aghat on the west. Sarai is entered by a metalled road from the north, on either side of which lie the substantial brick-built *havelis* or clusters of houses occupied by the Pathan landholders of the village. After these comes the bazar, consisting of a number of fine houses along a straight, broad metalled road leading to the central space or *chauk*, which is also metalled and forms the market-place.

Sarai was founded towards the close of the seventeenth century by Khizr Khan, Muhammad Khan and Rasul Khan, Pathans of the Toya or Tuyah Khail, who came here from Mau Rashidabad, in the Farrukhabad district, and built the *sarai* Abdurrasul and a mosque, of which the latter alone now remains. The memorial stone of the sarai is now over the door of the house of Hakimullah Khan in Sarai and bears the following inscription:—

"On the 9th Jumada II, 1097 A.H. (23rd February 1686), in the 29th year of the reign of Aurangzeb Ghazi, when Nawab Ilhamullah was the *jagirdar* and Mirza Amir Beg was the *faujdar*, this *sarai* was established. It was built by Khizr Khan, Muhammad Khan and Rasul Khan Tuyah."*

This inscription gives us the name of the Governor of Etah in 1686, and Mr. Blochman identifies the Ilhamullah Khan

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* Proceedings A. S. B., 1874, p. 105.

here mentioned with an officer of the same name who is mentioned in the *Maasir-i-Alamgir* as having served in the 28th year of the Emperor's reign in the Deccan.

To the west of Sarai is a lofty and extensive *khera* forty feet in height and about half a mile in diameter at the base, the northern portion of which is built over with brick houses. This is Aghat or Agahat, which is indebted for its name to the Muni Agastiya, the fabled regenerator of the Deccan. The houses on the mound are built of bricks which have been dug out of the *khera*, a part of which has been completely ruined by excavations made in search of building materials. Gold, silver and copper coins of all ages, as well as images of Buddha, are frequently found here, some Rs. 20,000 worth of coins being discovered in 1843. On the opposite side of Sarai, and less than a mile off, is Sankisa, and there is every reason to believe that Aghat once formed a part of that city in the days of its greatness.

SARAWAL, *pargana* SIRHPURA, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This large village, lying in 27°35′N. and 78°58′E., contained in 1901 a population numbering 2,883 persons. The total area of the village lands is 3,523 acres, of which 2,962 are cultivated, and the revenue assessed on it is Rs. 3,600. The zamindar is a Bania named Babu Dwarka Parshad. The village is purely agricultural without trade of any kind, and contains no public building beyond the village school.

SIRHPURA, *pargana* SIRHPURA, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This village lies 13 miles from Etah in 27°38′N. and 78° 54′E., and in 1901 contained 1,114 inhabitants. A good unmetalled road from Etah to Patiali passes through the place. On account of its central position Sirhpura was the headquarters of the district for some time after its formation, and the remains of the magistrate's and munsif's offices are still to be seen. Sirhpura still contains a good masonry police station, a post-office and a school, and many of its inhabitants are well-to-do. The total area of the village is 525 acres of which 379 are cultivated, and the land revenue assesssed on it is Rs. 405. The zamindars are numerous.

SIRHPURA *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Sirhpura lies along the north bank of the Kali Nadi which separates it from the Etah tahsil. On the north-west and north is pargana Sahawar; on the north-east and east are parganas Patiali and Azamnagar; and to the south is pargana Barna. The pargana is of long and straggling shape, about 16 miles in extreme length and 8 miles across at its widest point. The total area is 58,159 acres or nearly 91 square miles.

The tract comprises two natural divisions, the lowland or *tarai* of the Kali Nadi and the upland. The Kali Nadi valley varies greatly in width according as the stream is near the northern or the southern bank. The river does not shift its bed and the margin of the stream is usually the highest point of the valley which slopes gently to the foot of the high bank where there is often a slight depression. This is especially the case where the drainage of the uplands makes its way down into the valley. The water-courses, instead of proceeding directly out to the river, often turn and run along parallel to it for a short distance. *Kharif* crops are rarely grown, as the valley is subject to flooding; though in years of light rainfall *juar* or *arhar* are sometimes grown on the higher portions.

Sugarcane is common in the depressions. The staple crop however is what, which is grown over practically the whole area, except when the rainfall is very heavy or late, when the soil does not dry in time for the *rabi* sowings. The surface of the upland is very uneven, filled with depressions and pockets in which rain-water collects. Along the crest of the Kali Nadi high bank is a considerable stretch of *bhur*, and inferior *bhur* occurs again along the northern borders. Between these, on the west and in the centre is a plain of good *dumat*. In the east good loam is only found in patches, and there is often lowlying and liable to swamping. All along the central line of the pargana are considerable stretches of *usar*, usually covered with *dhak* jungle frequented by pig and a few *nilgai*, whose numbers have however greatly decreased in the last few years. The natural drainage is bad. The fall is from north-west to south-east towards the Kali Nadi and there are two main drainage lines, one on the west and the other on the east. The former has two main branches, one entering

the pargana at Bachhmai and the other at Hanspur, the two uniting just south of Sirhpura and leading down to the Kali Nadi by Gangsara and Laungpur. The eastern line runs along the north-eastern boundary, sometimes in this pargana and sometimes in Patiali, finally taking an abrupt turn to the south and following the eastern boundary. These lines, which are naturally very inefficient, have been improved by the canal officers and the pargana is not likely to suffer again as it did between 1884 and 1892. But any cycle of wet years will always cause a decrease in the cultivated area, very few villages in the pargana not being to some extent precarious. Of the total area 42,909 acres were cultivated in the year of record, 1309 fasli or 1901-02, of which 18,274 acres, or about three-sevenths, were irrigated, mostly from the Fatehgarh branch of the lower Ganges canal which now waters practically the whole upland. The lowland relies mainly on the Kali Nadi. Apart from the canal *kachha* wells are the chief source of supply and as the subsoil is generally sandy those are of the shallow percolation type and both inadequate and precarious. One group of villages however round Selaut has a firm subsoil, and in these the wells last several years and give an ample supply of water. Crops and the style of cultivation have greatly improved since the 1873 settlement. The *rabi* area, which was then 39 per cent. of the whole, is now 60·9 per cent. This gain has been achieved largely at the expense of the *kharif* area, which has sunk from 61·1 per cent. to 48 per cent., but has been greatly assisted by the increased practice of double-cropping. The area from which two crops are taken, which was formerly only ·2 per cent. of the whole, is now 9 per cent. More than two-thirds of the *rabi* area is occupied by wheat, which has more than doubled its cultivation, while barley, which was formerly almost as much grown as wheat, has lost nearly three-quarters of its former acreage. There has been a great increase in both gram and peas and poppy, which in 1902 covered 3,042 and 1,107 acres respectively, as compared with 288 acres and 22 acres 30 year ago. In the *kharif* the principal staple is still *bajra*, which takes up however only 20·6 per cent. of the whole area instead of 41·8 per cent. as it once did. Its place has been in some degree taken by *juar* and maize which cover 5,358 and 2,128 acres respectively.

Cotton has remained nearly stationary with 2,002 acres, and sugarcane and rice have both added to their areas.

The chief cultivating castes are Kachhis, Brahmans, Thakurs, Chamars, Lodhas and Ahirs. Thirty-seven per cent. of the tenants' area is held in occupancy tenure at an average rent of Rs. 2·84 per acre. The non-occupancy incidence is Rs. 3·05 per acre, having risen 50 per cent. during the settlement period. The occupancy area has decreased by 16 per cent., mainly through the abandonment of the inferior soils during the years of depression.

Thakurs are still the chief landowners, holding 34·4 per cent. of the total area. They have however lost considerably since the last settlement. Next come Brahmans who have nearly doubled their former possessions, thanks to the money-lending members of their caste at Sirhpura, and now hold rather over 20 per cent. The Bania money-lender too has tightened his grip upon the soil, and now holds one-eighth of it—three times as much as at the last settlement. Musalmans, who used to hold rather more than a fourth of the pargana, have lost 59 per cent. of their domains. The other proprietary classes are Mahajans and Kayasths, each with about 7 per cent., and Europeans, represented by the Messrs. Maxwell of the Raur concern in Etah-Sakit, who have recently acquired 912 acres. With this exception there are no large landowners, and the average held by each proprietor in all classes of tenure is only 28 acres, while the average in imperfect *pattidari* is only 11 acres and in perfect *pattidari* and *bhaiyachara* barely 20 acres.

Sirhpura is a village with a few money-lenders living in it, but otherwise little business is done here, most of the exports finding their way to Ganj Dundwara, which is on the railway about five miles north-east of the pargana, and is connected with Sirhpura by an indifferent *kachha* road which continues in the opposite direction to Etah. Another poor *kachha* road, which before the construction of the Grand Trunk Road was the main artery of traffic between Meerut and Fatehgarh, runs north-west and south-east through the pargana, leading to Kasganj in one direction and Dhumri in the other, and a third unmetalled road passes through Sirhpura from Sakit to Budaun. Beyond these the only roads are bad cart-tracks, and altogether the pargana is very

badly off for means of communication. Sirhpura, or Sidhpura as it is written in Hindi, is clearly the same as the Saidhupura of *dastur* Marahra, *sarkar* Koil and *subah* Agra, and was originally colonized by a body of Solankhi Rajputs.

In 1816 Sirhpura was made the headquarters of a subdivision; it formed part of the Etawah district till 1837; it was then transferred to Mainpuri of which district it formed a part at Mr. Edmonstone's settlement in 1840. It was one of the parganas which in 1845 made up the nucleus of the new Etah district.

SONHAR *pargana, tahsil* ETAH.

The Sonhar pargana occupies the south-eastern angle of the Etah tahsil. In shape it closely resembles a shoulder of mutton, the shank being in the north and the broad base forming the south-western boundary. On the north and east it is divided by the Kali Nadi, or Kalindri as it is locally termed, from parganas Sirhpura and Barna on the south-east lies pargana Kuraoli of Mainpuri, and the rest of its border to west and south-west marches with pargana Etah-Sakit. About 10 miles in length from north to south and 7 in breadth across its widest part its area is 21,523 acres, or 33·63 square miles. The belt of sandy soil which accompanies the Kali Nadi stretches in the north right across the pargana, giving it the appearance of a perfect sea of sand, with only scattered patches of good soil. The southern limit of this is marked by the Khara Nala which, entering the pargana a little north of the median line, runs almost directly across it. At this point a tract of good soil thrusts, as it were, the sand away into two ridges on either side, leaving a central block almost entirely free from it. The eastern ridge follows the river and leaves the pargana with it. The western occupies about half of *mauza* Sonhar and the extreme north of *mauza* Birsinghpur, and thereafter passes out of the pargana. The wedge of good soil, at first an excellent loam, gradually hardens to the south, turning first to clay and then to *usar*; while in the very south-west, beyond the Grand Trunk Road, occurs another out-crop of sand forming the pargana boundary. Besides this upland there is the lowland *tarai* between the sand belt and the river. Ordinarily this dries up in ample time to permit of sowings for the spring harvest,

when the crops are extremely fine. But in seasons of heavy and late rain sowing becomes impossible, and a series of such seasons led in 1884 to the abandonment of a good deal of this *tarai*. It has however fully recovered now, except in a few patches where sand has been deposited. As the Kali does not shift its bed there is no diluvion. In this *tarai* irrigation is unnecessary or is practicable at a nominal cost. In the central loam so firm is the subsoil that *kachha* wells lasting 10 or 12 years are easily and cheaply made and irrigation is therefore abundant. The clay to the south-west is chiefly dependent on the rainfall and the cultivation is precarious though good crops of both rice and wheat can be grown in favourable seasons. The most precarious tract is the sand, suffering immediately when the rainfall is short, and liable to outbreaks of *kans* when a cycle of wet years supervenes, while the sandy subsoil makes *kachha* wells impossible, except the shallow percolation type, and the great depth of the water-bearing stratum puts the construction of masonry wells out of the reach of the impoverished coparcenary communities. The facilities for irrigation have however been greatly improved of recent years by the construction of the new Bewar canal, two of whose distributaries traverse the pargana ; and the only villages now liable to suffer are a few of those in the east and north which the canal water does not reach. In all 21 villages out of 36 are served by the distributaries and the canal irrigated area has risen from 425 to 3,255 acres since the 1873 settlement. Masonry and half masonry wells have also increased by 121. Nevertheless of the total cultivated area of 14,783 acres only 4,282 are as yet irrigated. Wheat is by far the commonest *rabi* crop and has increased, both alone and in combination, by about 25 per cent. since the last settlement. Poppy is a favourite crop in the *gauhan* lands and has more than doubled its area, as have also garden crops. In the poorer soils barley is largely grown. The principal *kharif* staple is *bajra* which is replaced by *juar* in the stronger soils. Maize is common near the homestead in double-cropped lands and has greatly advanced in popularity, to some extent taking the place of both *juar* and *bajra*, probably because by maturing earlier it allows more readily of the growth of a second crop. Sugarcane

is little grown, but there is now three times as much of it as there was 30 years ago. The area bearing two crops is, on the lowest estimate, more than double what it was.

The pargana is one of small owners: the total number of proprietors is 642, the average holding thus amounting to 335 acres of which 23 represents cultivation. The commonest tenure is perfect *pattidari*, accounting for 8,825 acres. Next come single *zamindari* with 5,422 acres; joint *zamindari* with 4,536 acres; and imperfect *pattidari* with 2,465 acres. There are no large resident landowners. Thakurs hold the bulk of the pargana, but their position is weakening, as they held in 1902 only 61 per cent. as against 72 per cent. at the 1873 settlement, a diminution accounted for by improvident and thriftless habits coupled with increasing subdivision of ownership. How great an influence the latter may be is shown by the increase in the number of Thakur proprietors from 169 at the last settlement to 425 in 1908. Kayasths and Brahmans, who between them do the money-lending of the pargana, have both increased their possessions, the former from 17·9 to 19·6 per cent., and the latter from 4·7 to 8·9 per cent. Banias however still own less than 3 per cent. The cultivation is on the whole of indifferent quality. Thakurs are again in the majority as tenants, holding 2,948 acres or 22 per cent. of the tenant's area, while 42 per cent. is held by Ahirs, Chamars and Gadariyas, who are of similarly average cultivating capacity. Only 9 per cent. is in the hands of Kachhis and other really first-rate cultivators: and the same amount is held by Brahmans, who are here quite at the bottom of the farming scale. Caste has no influence upon rents, which are universally paid in cash and have risen very considerably since the last settlement. It is not easy to estimate the rise in occupancy rentals, owing to the imperfect information available, but it is at least 23 per cent. and may be as much as 36 per cent., while the non-occupancy rate has risen from Rs. 2·24 per acre to Rs. 2·79, or by 30 per cent. On the other hand, the average size of holdings has diminished by over one-third—from 4·04 acres to 2·51.

The pargana is essentially agricultural, without towns or manufactures. Its largest village is Malawan, with 2,472 inhabitants. Neither this nor Sonhar is of any importance as

markets, most of the surplus produce passing away at once to Dhumri, Kuraoli or Sakit. The Grand Trunk Road crosses the pargana near its southern boundary, giving access to the market towns of Kuraoli and Sakit. The north is traversed by the Etah-Aliganj road, with a bridge of boats (or ferry, according to the season) over the Kali Nadi at Rajpur. This road is being metalled. The central part of the pargana obtains access to these two main arteries by a fair-weather cart track leading from Malawan *viâ* Sonhar to Rajpur. The communications are sufficient for the needs of a simple agricultural tract.

Sonhar was formed out of the old Akbari pargana of Barna, which belonged to *sarkar* Kanauj. Included at the cession in the Farrukhabad district it subsequently passed to Mainpuri, and was in 1845 taken with other parganas to form the nucleus of the present district.

SORON, *pargana* SORON, *tahsil* KASGANJ.

This town lies on the bank of the Burhganga, 27 miles from Etah, on the high road between Bareilly and Hathras, in 27°54′N. and 78°45′E. The population, which in 1881 numbered 12,745 persons, decreased during the period of agricultural depression to 11,265 in 1891, but at the 1901 census it had risen again to 12,175. Of these 10,003 were Hindus, 1,890 Musalmans, 275 Christians and 7 others. There were no Jains in the place. The Soron Brahmans constitute about half the Hindu population: they are a fine race of handsome men distinguished by wearing a scarlet *pagri*. They are well-to-do and derive a large income from donations sent to them from all parts of Northern India, as well as from their annual tours among their *jajmans* or pilgrim clients. They also realise large contributions at the numerous festivals that take place during the year.

Though it has some pretensions to be considered a trading mart Soron is chiefly important for its religious associations, and as being the scene of numerous *melas* or religious assemblies. Devout Hindus from all parts of India, after visiting Muttra, come to bathe in the Burhganga and in the Ganges itself at Garhia Ghat four miles to the north of Soron. The Marg Sri fair

in Aghan is the great day for Garhia Ghat. The Burhganga here forms a considerable pool, with temples and ghats on the eastern and northern sides, and is fed by a channel from the canal at an annual cost to the municipality of Rs. 475 paid to the irrigation department. It is here that the pilgrims bathe and draw the water which they take away to serve as medicine in time of sickness and to offer to their village gods. There are eighteen ghats, all well kept and well built of kankar blocks or stone, with brick steps leading down to the water's edge. Numerous *pipal* trees are planted near the temples which number altogether from fifty to sixty. Besides the temples there are about thirty large well-built *dharmsalas* or rest-houses, many of which, erected by wealthy pilgrims from Gwalior or Bhartpur, stand on high plinths and are exquisitely carved in Agra stone, presenting an imposing appearance. A wide centre street forming the principal bazar is paved with kankar blocks, as are four other wide roads, while several of the minor lanes have pavements of brick. The site is well raised on the right bank of the Burhganga, into which the superfluous moisture naturally drains on the west. The principal bazar contains the police station and post-office, a well attended dispensary and a school. Close to the grain-market is a *parao,* or halting-place for carts, and there are two *sarais.* The town is now connected by railway with both Kasganj and Bareilly, and the pilgrim traffic keeps the line busy. Near the railway station stands the municipal hall. A stranger to the town is chiefly struck by the number of substantial and imposing houses and temples, and by the crowds which throng the bazar during the frequent fairs. At these times the shopkeepers do a thriving trade, but out of the season the place is very dead alive and quiet.

In 1868 Soron, with Badaria on the opposite bank, was formed into a municipality, and its affairs are managed by a board consisting of eight members of whom six are elected and two are appointed by the Government. The income is derived mainly from an octroi-tax on imports, the only other items of any importance being the receipts from the cattle-pound and the sale of night-soil. Details of the income and expenditure for each year since 1900 will be found in the appendix. The

principal industries of the place are the manufacture of bead *chiks* and of glass phials for the use of pilgrims who wish to carry away the holy water. A certain amount of sugar and tobacco are exported, mainly to Hathras and Cawnpore.

The original name of Soron was Ukala kshetra*, but after the demon Hiranyakasyapa had been slain here by Vishnu in his boar incarnation the name was changed to Sukara-kshetra, or "the place of the wild boar." The ancient town is now represented by a mound known as the *kila*, or fort, which is a quarter of a mile in length from north to south and somewhat less in breadth. It stands on the old high bank of the Ganges, which is said by some to have flowed immediately under it so late as 250 years ago. The only buildings now existing on it are the temple of Sita Ramji and the tomb of Shaikh Jamal, but it is covered with broken bricks of a large size and the foundations of walls can be traced in all directions. Popular tradition ascribes the present remains to one Raja Somadatta of Soron, but the original settlement is attributed to the much older Raja Bena Chakravartti, who plays such a conspicuous part in all the legends of North Bihar, Oudh and Rohilkhand. According to the Solankhi tradition the founder was their own leader Sonamatti. Though many of the temples are said to be of very ancient origin the only ones of any consequence are those of Sita Ramji, just mentioned, and of Varahaji to the north-west of the city. The latter contains a statue of Varaha-Lakshmi and is visited by crowds of pilgrims on the eleventh day of the waxing moon of Margasirsha in remembrance of the boar (*varaha*) incarnation. The temple of Sita-Ramji, which is said to have been destroyed by Aurangzeb, was restored by a wealthy Bania in 1860 by building up the spaces between the pillars with plain white-washed walls. The style of these columns is similar to that of the set of pillars in the south-east corner of the quadrangle of the great Kutb mosque at Delhi, which bear the date of *Sambat* 1124, or A.D. 1067. That this date is not too early for the Soron temple is proved by the inscriptions of various pilgrims who have visited the shrine. As the oldest legible record bears the date of *Sambat* 1226, or A.D. 1169 the date of the erection of the temple cannot be placed later

* Arch, Sur. I., p. 266.

than A.D. 1000. Of these pilgrims' records General Cunningham writes that "they are generally short and uninteresting, but as there are no less than 38 of them, bearing dates which range from A.D. 1169 to A.D. 1511, they become valuable for tracing the history of the temple. The earliest date after the Muhammadan conquest is A.D. 1241, and from that time down to A.D. 1290 there are no less than 15 dated records, showing that Soron continued to be a much frequented place of pilgrimage during the whole period of the Ghori dynasty, which ended in A.D. 1289. But during the rule of the next two dynasties, the Khiljis and the Tughlaks, there is only one inscription, dated in A.D. 1375, in the reign of Firoz. Now as nearly one-half of this period was occupied by the reigns of the cruel despot Ala-ul-din Khilji and the ferocious madman Muhammad Tughlak, it seems only reasonable to suppose that the people were deterred from making their usual pilgrimages by the persecution of their Muhammadan rulers. The next record is dated in A.D.1429, and from that time down to 1511 there are 16 dated inscriptions; but as no less than 13 of this number belong to the reign of Bahlol Lodi, I infer that the rule of the Saiyid dynasty was not favourable to Hindu pilgrimages. I infer also that the temple must have been destroyed during the reign of the intolerant Sikandar Lodi, because the series of inscriptions closes with 1511, or just six years before the end of his reign. Had the temple existed during the happy century when the sceptre of India was swayed by the tolerant Akbar, the indifferent Jahangir and the politic Shah Jahan, it is almost certain that some record of the pilgrims' visits would have been inscribed on the pillars of the temple. For this reason I feel satisfied that the destruction of the great temple of Soron must be assigned to an earlier period than that of the bigoted Aurang Shah."

SORON *pargana, tahsil* KASGANJ.

Pargana Soron is bounded on the north and north-east by the Burhganga, which separates it from parganas Faizpur Badaria and Aulai. On the south and south-east lies pargana Sahawar and on the west is pargana Bilram. The total area is 26,467

acres or 41·3 square miles. The pargana falls naturally into two divisions—the upland and the lowland adjoining the Burhganga. The upland at this point thrusts itself out in a promontory from the main line of the old high bank of the Ganges and forms a ridge running north through the centre of the pargana as far as the town of Soron. The lowland sweeps back on either side along the edges of this ridge and occupies about two-thirds of the total area of the pargana. Cultivation in the lowlands is very precarious, as the whole tract is liable to waterlogging, the Burhganga with its narrow tortuous stream often failing to carry off the water poured into it. And in the west of the pargana drainage is blocked by the high ridge to which reference has been made. The soils in this tract vary with the level. Along the course of the Burhganga and in depressions all over the pargana is a rich, dark-coloured soil known as *tarai* which is very fertile and grows sugarcane. The other soils in the area consist mostly of but a thin layer over sand and are soft, friable and distinctly alluvial in character. At the foot of the high bank comes what is known as the *pahl*, in character a cross between the upland and lowland areas, but in proportion to the sand contained in its soil more fertile than the upland and both retentive of moisture and susceptible of a high cultivation. In the upland the soils are all more or less sandy as is the subsoil, firmer loam only being reached in the extreme south. Of the total area 20,773 acres are under cultivation and of this area only 3,690 acres are irrigated, almost all from wells, as, though the Fatehgarh branch of the Lower Ganges canal passes through the pargana, only 32 acres are irrigated from it. There are only 55 masonry wells, and except in two villages, Hatrendi and Nagla Gurguri, where, thanks to a firm subsoil, good and enduring *kachha* wells can be made, the pargana is dependent for its irrigation on shallow percolation wells which easily fall in and give an indifferent supply of water. The upland drainage is satisfactory, but in the lowlands, despite the recent straightening and clearing of the Burhganga and the digging of various drainage cuts, there will always be a liability to swamping in wet years. Practically the whole pargana is precarious to a greater or less extent. The *rabi* area which was formerly

34·3 per cent. of the whole cultivation, has now increased to 48·9 per cent., largely at the expense of the *kharif* which has decreased from 65·4 per cent. to 58·3, while the double-cropped area which did not exist at the last settlement is now 7·4 per cent. of the whole. The increase in the *rabi* area is due to the extended cultivation of wheat, which, alone or in combination with other crops, now makes up nearly three-quarters of the harvest. Barley is the only other *rabi* crop of any importance. *Bajra* is still the principal staple in the *kharif* though it has been to a great extent displaced of recent years by both *juar* and maize, the latter among its many merits allowing the ground to be prepared in time for a second crop of wheat. A good deal of sugarcane is still grown in the *tarai*. The principal cultivating castes are Brahmans, Lodhas, Thakurs, Kachhis and Musalmans; and of the tenants' area 34 per cent. is held in occupancy tenure, a decrease of 10 per cent. since the last settlement, while the rents have risen by 21 per cent. in the same period, the average incidence being now Rs. 3·17 per acre. Non-occupancy rents have only risen by 19 per cent., the average being kept down by the prevalence of *nautor* rates on much of the newly broken up land, and the all-round incidence is now Rs. 3·39 per acre. The principal proprietors are Brahmans, wh in this pargana are zamindars of old standing and at the 1873 settlement held 44 per cent. of the whole area. They have lost ground to the extent of 11 per cent. The Thakurs' losses have been still more serious and they have been dispossessed of 60 per cent. of their old possessions, retaining only 3,560 acres. Musalmans have fared almost as badly, losing 54 per cent. of their domains. The gainers have, as elsewhere, been the money-lenders. Banias, who formerly owned 4 per cent. of the pargana, have multiplied their possessions five-fold, and Mahajans, who had no footing at all, now own 1,276 acres. Kayasths have added a little to their former estates and now possess 3,423 acres. In all, 49 per cent. of the total area has been transferred during the 25 years preceding the 1902 settlement. The main factor in this unsatisfactory result has been the extreme lengths to which subdivision of property has been carried in this pargana. There are no less than 2,345 proprietors of the 64 mahals,

and if we exclude the 7,525 acres held in single *zamindari* by 21 proprietors, the average area owned by each of the remainder is rather less than 9 acres, which during the period of extreme depression would have fallen to 5 acres or less. The smaller holdings thus became insufficient to support their owners, even though there had been no revenue to pay.

The pargana is essentially agricultural. Soron, though a municipality with a population of 12,175 souls and a great place of pilgrimage, is economically of small importance and has little trade or manufactures, but is now a station on the Kasganj-Bareilly line, and the metre-gauge Cawnpore-Achnera line runs through the southern corner of the pargana. There is also a metalled road from Kasganj through Soron to Budaun, and unmetalled roads run from Soron to Sahawar and from Kasganj to Sahawar. Communications are ample for the needs of the tract. Soron is an old Akbari pargana and belonged to *dastur* Marahra, *sarkar* Koil and *subah* Agra. It was transferred from Budaun to Etah in 1845 and has undergone few changes in area since the cession.

THANA DARIAOGANJ, *pargana* AZAMNAGAR, *tahsil* ALIGANJ.

This village on the bank of the Burhganga, in 27°37′N. and 79°8′E., lies on the Aliganj-Patiali road, 28 miles east of Etah. In 1901 its population numbered 2,290 persons. It is made up of two villages, Thana and Dariaoganj. Thana is the older village and was founded by Than Singh, grandson of Dhir Sahai, brother of Raja Ram Sahai, the ancestor of the Rampur family. Than Singh's descendants are now cultivators in the villages. Dariaoganj was founded by Khan Bahadur Khan, *amil* of Azamnagar, the founder of Aliganj (q.v.). He built a large brick fort, the remains of which are still to be seen, beneath the old bank of the Ganges. To the north-west of Thana is a large *jhil* shaped like a horse-shoe which is said to have been formerly a reach of the Ganges. On the south bank of the *jhil* is a banyan tree which, when last measured, was found to be 37 feet 9 inches in girth at a height of three and a half feet from the ground, while the area of ground covered by its shadow at

noon in May was one rood 19 poles. The total area of the village lands is 4,798 acres, of which 2,308 are cultivated, and the land revenue assessed on it is Rs. 2,700. The zamindars are Shaikhs, Ala-ullah Khan being the most important. There is a school in the village, which is now a station on the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway. A metalled road connects the station with Aliganj, to which fact Thana Dariaoganj owes its principal importance. The Raur indigo concern owns a bungalow in the village which is however a full mile from the railway station.

UMARGARH, *pargana and tahsil* JALESAR.

This large village lies on the left bank of the Isan river in 27°24′N. and 78°24′E., 28 miles to the west of Etah, 9 miles south-east of Jalesar, and 10 miles south-west of Awa, on the Etah-Tundla road. The population in 1901 numbered 4,457 persons. The total area of the village is 6,532 acres, of which 3,816 are cultivated, and it is assessed to land revenue at Rs. 11,350. The zamindar for life is Rani Jodhiji, widow of Rao Nitr Pal Singh, Thakur of Umargarh, who resides here in the old fort on the summit of the high *khera*. Umargarh contains a post-office, school and pound. The police station has just been abolished.

Gazetteer of Etah.

APPENDIX.

GAZETTEER

OF

ETAH.

APPENDIX.

CONTENTS.

TABLE I.—*Population by tahsils*, 1901.

Total.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Etah	259,773	140,074	119,699	233,923	126,341	107,582	21,281	11,273	10,008	4,569	2,460	2,109
Kasganj	265,216	142,862	122,354	230,322	124,327	105,995	31,443	16,760	14,683	3,451	1,775	1,676
Aliganj	205,560	111,596	93,964	179,468	97,922	81,546	24,373	12,716	11,657	1,719	958	761
Jalesar	133,399	72,255	61,144	115,179	62,720	52,459	15,400	8,011	7,389	2,820	1,524	1,296
Total ...	863,948	466,787	397,161	758,892	411,310	347,582	92,497	48,760	43,737	12,559	6,717	5,842

TABLE II.—*Population by thanas*, 1901.

District.	Serial number of thana.	Name of thana.	Total population.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
			Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Etah.	1	Etah	82,948	44,916	38,032	74,157	40,075	34,082	6,757	3,717	3,040	2,034	1,124	910
	2	Sakit	38,039	20,533	17,506	35,215	19,059	16,156	2,452	1,265	1,187	372	209	163
	3	Malaon	39,576	21,510	18,066	37,878	20,581	17,297	1,321	718	603	377	211	166
	4	Amanpur	43,537	23,512	20,025	39,239	21,168	18,071	3,761	2,082	1,679	537	262	275
	5	Marehra	57,506	30,463	27,043	49,542	26,504	23,038	7,254	2,607	3,647	710	352	358
	6	Nidhauli	43,536	23,548	19,988	39,036	21,108	17,928	3,610	1,964	1,646	890	476	414
	7	Awa	32,643	17,574	15,069	28,863	15,539	13,324	2,999	1,601	1,398	781	434	347
	8	Jalesar	77,171	41,718	35,453	65,416	35,673	29,743	10,554	5,422	5,132	1,201	623	578
	9	Umargarh	23,585	12,963	10,622	20,900	11,508	9,392	1,847	988	859	838	467	371
	10	Patiali	50,034	27,170	22,864	39,698	21,863	17,835	9,978	5,087	4,891	358	220	138
	11	Jaithra	53,247	29,114	24,183	50,424	27,542	22,882	2,523	1,405	1,118	300	167	133
	12	Aliganj	70,713	38,243	32,470	61,577	33,466	28,111	8,684	4,528	4,156	452	249	203
	13	Sirhpura	35,816	19,476	16,340	33,472	18,162	15,310	2,130	1,206	924	214	108	106
	14	Sahawar	47,352	25,607	21,745	39,176	21,335	17,841	7,239	3,773	3,466	937	499	438
	15	Kadirganj	31,032	16,784	14,248	27,607	14,963	12,644	3,068	1,641	1,427	357	180	177
	16	Soron	55,489	29,976	25,513	50,169	27,069	23,100	4,790	2,627	2,163	530	280	250
	17	Kasganj	81,724	43,680	38,044	66,523	35,695	30,828	13,530	7,129	6,401	1,671	856	815
		Total ...	863,948	466,787	397,161	758,892	411,310	347,582	92,497	48,760	43,737	12,559	6,717	5,842

TABLE III.—*Vital statistics.*

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1891	25,330	13,336	11,994	36·08	18,086	10,096	7,990	25·76
1892	27,665	14,585	13,080	39·40	18,701	10,358	8,343	26·64
1893	34,164	17,845	16,319	48·66	16,587	8,906	7,681	23·62
1894	35,943	19,041	16,902	51·19	23,852	13,012	10,840	33·97
1895	36,008	18,709	17,299	51·29	19,416	10,191	9,225	27·65
1896	37,045	19,290	17,755	52 76	23,416	12,603	10,813	33 35
1897	33,337	17,151	16,186	47·48	29,282	15,069	14,213	41·71
1898	35,440	18,170	17,270	50·48	23,961	12,608	11,353	34·13
1899	42,922	22,274	20,648	61·14	29,315	15,423	13,892	41·75
1900	36,749	19,006	17,743	52·34	24,858	13,127	11,731	35·41*
1901	39,462	20,606	18,856	45·67	25,541	13,401	12,140	29 56
1902 ...	40,394	20,988	19,406	46 75	24,466	12,754	11,712	28·32
1903	41,521	21,579	19,942	48·06	34,117	17,819	16,298	39·49
1904	41,184	21,331	19,853	47·67	31,853	16,252	15,601	36·87
1905	34,873	18,077	16,796	40·36	38,969	19,257	19,712	45·10
1906	38,993	20,621	18,372	45·13	26,451	13,732	13,719	30·62
1907	37,849	19,619	18,230	43·81	37,379	18,739	18,640	43·26
1908								
1909								
1910								
1911								
1912								
1913								
1914								

* The rates from 1891 to 1900 are calculated from the returns of the 1891 census.

TABLE IV.—*Deaths according to cause.*

Year.	Total deaths from— All causes.	Plague.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel com-plaints.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1891	18,086	...	383	248	13,048	174
1892	18,701	...	401	20	13,482	196
1893	16,587	...	2	18	11,259	97
1894	23,852	...	58	50	17,346	141
1895	19,416	...	52	23	13,135	103
1896	23,416	...	89	998	15,510	140
1897	29,282	...	9	2,042	19,599	196
1898	23,961	...	6	7	17,631	44
1899	29,315	...	25	18	21,727	98
1900	24,858	...	31	38	19,066	67
1901	25,541	..	204	4	18,120	38
1902	24,466	...	14	16	16,969	48
1903	34,117	..	387	72	23,573	78
1904	31,853	...	...	123	22,196	113
1905	38,969	12,203	2	10	20,864	125
1906	26,451	608	125	258	17,458	110
1907	37,377	8,495	45	165	20,307	262
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						

TABLE V.—*Statistics of cultivation and irrigation*, 1314 fasli.

Pargana and Tahsil.	Total area.	Waste.	Culturable.	Cultivated. Irrigated. Total.	Canal.	Wells.	Tanks.	Other sources.	Dry.	Total	Double-cropped.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Etah-Sakit ...	160,709	8,312	63,814	53,855	17,213	33,783	...	2,859	34,728	88,583	21,201
Sonhar ...	21,523	1 397	4,113	7,061	4,357	2,133	...	571	8,952	16,013	2,859
Marehra ...	125,087	11,273	37,889	43,378	10,658	30.217	...	2 503	32,547	75,925	19,538
Tahsil Etah ...	307,319	20,982	105,816	107,294	32 228	66.133	...	5,933	76,227	180,521	42,598
Aulai ...	36,407	9,657	12,222	803	...	711	...	92	18,725	19,528	5,285
Bilram ...	66,067	4,190	5,864	23,338	8,378	13,062	...	1,898	32,675	56,013	11,059
Pachlana ...	25,311	1,495	4,104	4,359	1,124	9,009	...	226	15,353	19,712	2,632
Soron ...	26,562	1,575	3,869	4.051	14	3,902	...	135	17,067	21,118	3,176
Sirhpura ...	58,124	3,493	10,005	20,510	14,368	5,139	...	1,003	24,116	44,626	9,505
Sahawar Karsana ...	73,419	4 021	7.875	24,713	14,368	9.098	...	1,310	36,810	61,523	11,367
Faizpur Badaria ...	29,556	7,258	5,046	1,149		1,121	...	28	16,103	17,252	3,627
Tahsil Kasganj ...	315,446	26,629	48,985	78,923	49,252	36,042	...	4,692	160,849	239,772	46,551
Azamnagar ...	161,874	9,698	35,283	34,256	9,610	21,681	...	2,965	82,637	116,893	14,716
Barna ...	24 315	1,181	2,516	6,005	2,820	2,972	...	213	14,613	20,618	1,942
Patiali ...	42,054	2,162	9,494	7,969	5,961	1,455	...	553	22,429	30,398	4,534
Nidhpur ...	110,086	17,517	37.209	8.127	...	7.195	...	932	47,233	55,360	11,457
Tahsil Aliganj ...	438,329	30,558	84,502	56,357	18,391	33,303	...	4,663	166,912	118,068	32,649
Jalesar ...	145,419	31,161	19,478	48,636	18,629	28,780	...	1,227	46,143	94.778	19,088
Tahsil Jalesar ...	145,419	31,161	19,439	48,636	18,629	28,780	...	1,227	46,143	94,778	19,085
District Total ...	1,206,513	109,390	258,782	359,210	118,500	164,258	...	16,515	450,131	633,141	141,983

TABLE VI.—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Etah.*

Year.	Rabi.					Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar and arhar.	Bajra and arhar.	Maize.	Cotton and arhar.	Rice.
Fasli.											
1305	118,806	44,403	15,985	3,171	2,021	99,047	27,980	8,810	24,300	8,264	...
1306*	112,729	44,142	10,820	4,136	2,114	109,070	31,610	9,641	27,789	7,570	...
1307-1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313	57,449	24,519	9,946	5,413	3,810	103,479	32,537	15,905	23,291	13,438	3,596
1314	60,223	50,821	9,441	1,968	3,165	111,455	33,971	14,953	24,174	17,662	6,735
1315											
1316											
1317											
1318											
1319											
1320											
1321											

* Intermediate figures not available on account of survey and settlement operations.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Kasganj.*

Year.	Rabi.					Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar and arhar.	Bajra and arhar.	Maize.	Cotton and arhar.	Rice.
Fasli.											
1305	130,061	57,414	21,475	4,041	2,078	130,377	20,795	39,348	26,459	9,144	...
1306	116,579	60,009	16,811	6,431	1,956	134,067	24,784	41,321	25,591	8,305	...
1307-1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313	125,184	4,163	15,351	8,586	8,405	145,920	25,686	55,923	21,972	18,004	6,662
1314	125,353	59,561	14,653	4,007	2,506	153,742	24,398	58,746	23,174	21,880	5,465
1315											
1316											
1317											
1318											
1319											
1320											
1321											

* Intermediate figures not available on account of survey and settlement operations.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Aliganj.*

Year.	Rabi.					Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar and arhar.	Bajra and arhar.	Maize.	Cotton and arhar.	Rice.
Fasli.											
1305	102,509	43,905	16,475	2,170	3,249	101,841	45,334	26,771	18,414	7,380	...
1306	104,941	47,830	10,337	4,605	3,290	107,180	28,773	33,250	18,083	5,830	...
1307-1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,531	...	...
1313	125,425	55,466	12,965	9,756	4,114	104,532	24,682	53,969	...	5,494	5,199
1314	120,567	56,235	11,744	5,524	3,851	130,121	28,515	55,530	14,920	8,359	7,300
1315											
1316											
1317											
1318											
1319											
1320											
1321											

* Intermediate figures not available on account of survey and settlement operations.

TABLE VI—(concluded).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Jalesar.*

Year.	Rabi.					Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar and arhar.	Bajra and arhar.	Maize.	Cotton and arhar.	Rice.
Fasli.											
1305	56,913	22,341	8,325	543	...	60,844	13,620	6,705	11,092	10,012	...
1306	56,315	24,701	5,432	1,014	...	61,162	5,915	4,631	7,311	8,992	...
1307	47,640	17,687	7,052	505	...	59,959	15,453	6,236	9,642	11,179	...
1308-1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313	47,496	12,841	4,651	1,666	201	62,848	15,215	13,037	8,951	13,787	875
1314	45,432	17,600	5,440	780	146	66,607	16,300	12,495	8,901	16,443	1,169
1315											
1316											
1317											
1318											
1319											
1320											
1321											

*Intermediate figures not available on account of survey and settlement operations.

Table VII.—*Criminal Justice.*

Year.	Number of persons convicted or bound over in respect of :— Offences against public tranquillity (Chapter VIII).	Offences affecting life.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Cattle-theft.	Criminal force and assault.	Theft.	Robbery and dakaiti.	Receiving stolen property.	Criminal trespass.	Bad livelihood.	Keeping the peace.	Cases under— Opium Act.	Cases under— Excise Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1897 ...	44	22	91	3	60	50	305	23	47	118	62	32	7	1
1898 ...	207	22	64	1	24	14	240	39	65	114	154	63	10	4
1899 ...	227	48	8	7	51	28	299	31	55	173	102	70	9	5
1900 ...	194	24	89	4	21	21	216	9	15	178	139	68	14	1
1901 ...	199	12	87	1	24	65	236	25	72	225	145	124	16	28
1902 ...	137	23	34	1	16	35	123	37	58	145	100	64	13	1
1903 ...	172	46	40	1	18	23	106	6	61	146	110	191	9	..
1904 ...	166	44	67	1	25	51	185	29	97	113	137	45	18	12
1905 ...	140	21	41	3	23	14	158	24	36	139	155	82	5	5
1906 ...	78	45	46	1	26	25	147	15	39	110	78	31	7	...
1907 ...	143	36	55	2	28	25	163	22	61	133	140	130	7	7
1908 ...														
1909 ...														
1910 ...														
1911 ...														
1912 ...														
1913 ...														
1914 ...														

TABLE VIII.—*Cognizable crime.*

Year.	Number of cases investigated by police— *Suo motu.*	By orders of Magistrate.	Sent up for trial.	Number of persons— Tried.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1897-98	1,975	42	1,148	1,955	452	1,503
1898-99	1,652	39	707	1,144	320	824
1899-1900 ...	1,772	...	998	1,556	355	1,201
1900-01	1,730	41	975	1,738	511	1,227
1901-02	1,474	44	820	1,329	257	1,072
1902-03	1,572	38	982	1,494	273	1,221
1903-04	1,420	Not available.	788	1,281	358	923
1904-05	1,636		987	1,346	254	1,092
1905-06	1,774		1,005	1,765	647	1,118
1906-07	1,602		862	1,222	389	824
1907-08	1,462		932	1,220	339	881
1908-09	1,683		877	1,319	255	1,064
1909-10						
1910-11						
1911-12						
1913-14						

NOTE.—Columns 2 and 3 should show cases instituted during the year.

TABLE IX.—*Revenue demand at successive settlements.*

Pargana.	Year of settlement.							
				Regulation IX of 1833.	Revision.	1871-72.	Revision.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Etah	35,261	35,491	39,491	68,486	77,514	1,84,300	1,83,975	1,95,803
Sakit	61,664	62,163	75,078	75,842	69,919			
Sonhar	12,793	12,793	12,591	16,879	13,088	15,900	15,275	18,435
Marehra	1,02,234	1,02,203	1,01,764	1,18,841	1,17,333	1,61,020	1,60,736	1,82,383
Tahsil Etah ...	2,11,952	2,12,650	228,924	4,80,048	2,77,854	3,61,220	3,59,986	3,96,621
Aulai	21,783	22,433	22,937	25,087	25,520	32,640	26,195	26,277
Bilram	42,856	47,999	68,554	51,242	51,251	68,860	67,711	84,813
Pachlana	11,492	24,302	17,442	18,978	18,876	23,680	22,074	24,675
Soron	22,608	19,847	22,201	21,070	21,094	25,980	24,324	25,800
Sirhpura	39,916	40,213	43,519	39,436	35,095	53,000	44,632	49,615
Sahawar	46,624	46,674	46,993	46,465	47,341	85,020	75,042	79,915
Karsana	15,820	1,5418	15,853	17,303	15,821			
Faizpur Badaria	42,866	42,352	47,576	34,633	32,027	27,870	27,208	21,681
Tahsil Kasganj ...	2,43,965	2,59,238	2,85,075	2,54,214	2,47,025	3,17,050	2,87,186	3,12,776
Azamnagar	98,786	1,02,984	1,04,338	1,09,591	1,06,893	1,43,188	1,26,419	1,18,998
Barna	15,906	15,730	15,651	18,331	16,329	18,210	17,238	20,145
Patiali	27,427	27,432	28,871	29,297	25,100	22,995	18,416	22,860
Nidhpur	72,274	71,119	77,966	59,338	59,260	69,513	65,745	61,562
Tahsil Aliganj ...	2,14,393	2,17,265	2,26,826	2,16,557	2,07,582	2,53,906	2,27,818	2,23,565
Jalesar	...	2,01,442	2,33,890	2,20,516	2,20,516	2,75,310	2,75,310	2,82,330
Tahsil Jalesar ...	...	2,01,422	2,33,890	2,20,516	2,20,516	2,75,310	2,75,310	2,82.330
District total ...	...	8,90,575	9,74,715	9,71.335	9,52,977	12,07,486	11,50,300	12,15,292

TABLE X.—*Present demand for revenue and cesses for the year 1314 Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Where included in *Ain-i-Akbari.*	Revenue.	Cesses.	Total.	Incidence per acre. Cultivated.	Incidence per acre. Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Etah Sakit	Sakit	1,95,771	19,577	2,15,348	2 11 2	1 5 5
Sonhar	Sonhar	18,435	1,844	20,279	1 7 3	0 10 5
Marehra	Marehra	1,82,363	19,116	2,01,479	2 14 6	1 9 9
Tahsil Etah ...	...	3,96,569	40,537	4,37,106	2 10 11	1 6 9
Aulai	Budaon ...	26,214	2,621	28,835	1 9 3	0 12 8
Bilram	Bilram	84,778	9,053	93,831	1 13 4	1 6 9
Pachlana	Pachlana	24,675	2,467	27,142	1 8 2	1 1 2
Soron	Soron	25,783	2,620	28,403	1 6 0	1 1 1
Sirhpura	Saidhupur	49,615	4,962	54,577	1 1 2	0 15 0
Sahawar Karsana	Sahawar and Sikandarpur Atraji.	79,908	7,992	87,900	1 8 9	1 3 0
Faizpur Badaria	Sahiswan	21,675	2,170	23,845	1 7 6	0 12 11
Tahsil Kasganj ...	...	3,12,648	31,885	3,44,533	1 8 11	1 1 6
Azamnagar	Shamsabad	1,18,998	12,208	1,31,206	1 5 10	0 12 11
Barna	Barna	20,145	6,429	26,574	1 8 3	1 1 1
Patiali	Patiali	22,860	2,291	25,151	0 14 10	0 9 6
Nidhpur	Budaon	61,867	2,014	63,881	1 3 11	0 9 3
Tahsil Aliganj ...	...	2,23,870	22,942	2,46,812	1 4 6	0 11 8
Jalesar	...	2,82,160	28,908	3,11.068	3 8 5	2 2 3
Tahsil Jalesar ...	...	2,82,160	28,908	3,11,068	3 8 5	2 2 3
Etah District, Total ...	...	12,15,247	1,24,272	13,39,519	2 1 10	1 1 9

TABLE XI.—*Excise.*

Year.	Receipts from foreign liquor.	Country spirit.		Receipts from *Tari* and *Sendhi.*	Total receipts.	Drugs.					Opium.			Total receipts.	Total charges.	Incidence of receipts per 10,000 population from—			Number of shops for sale of—		
		Receipts.	Consumption in gallons.			Consumption in maunds of—					Total receipts.	Consumption.				Liquor including *Tari.*	Drugs.	Opium.	Country spirit.	Drugs.	Opium.
						Ganja.		*Charas.*													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8			9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Md.	s.	Md.	s.		Rs.	Md.	s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.			
90-91	240	5,933	...	715	6,763	Not available.					11,756	25	25	27,780	1,292	98	96	167	71	70	19
91-92	167	4,847	...	814	5,452						10,861	25	30	22,141	1,255	83	78	155	41	70	18
92-93	192	6,970	5,737	885	5.965	5	29	60	6		12.162	28	19	26.175	1,176	114	84	173	60	74	18
93-94	192	7,254	5,930	1,159	5,843	2	26	70	25		11,905	28	1	26,353	614	249	83	170	51	74	19
94-95	192	10,068	5,624	1,412	6,973	...		65	12		11,904	26	12	30,545	428	286	99	169	54	69	20
95-96	192	8,186	5,281	1,283	7,010	...		73	10		10,902	26	26	27,572	72	253	100	155	54	69	18
96-97	304	7,702	4,031	1,552	7.283	0	2	42	2		10,628	25	38	27,572	147	224	103	151	56	68	20
97-98	384	7,294	4,566	1,389	7,234	...		43	36		10,355	25	34	26,657	58	230	103	147	54	69	18
98-99	336	8,234	5,839	1,565	8,213	...		47	17		11,217	27	36	29,568	20	278	145	160	58	71	18
899-1900	348	9,530	4,883	1,925	8,626	...		34	10		11,417	27	22	31,903	69	301	170	163	56	71	18
900-01	372	21,730	7,069	1,840	13,674	...		39	23		12,808	30	31	50,447	626	277	158	148	70	71	18
901-02	384	26,366	7,538	2,085	16,218	...		33	34		14,179	34	17	59,242	1,340	335	187	164	77	71	18
902-03	1,056	28,525	7,737	2,030	16,284	...		33	1		14,647	35	21	62,551	525	368	189	173	77	71	21
903-04	1,040	28,476	7,739	2,295	15,553	...		28	18		15,789	39	10½	63,159	412	369	180	180	70	71	24
904-05	809	31,518	8,899	2,340	20,263	...		22	15		14,611	35	21	69,541	428	403	336	170	68	71	25
905-06	286	27,050	6,902	3,359	26,562	...		22	14		13,158	31	33	70,419	898	357	309	153	68	71	25
906-07	500	28,208	7,281	1,106	22,692	...		14	28		13,015	31	18	65,521	656	347	264	151	67	71	25
907-08	550	24,656	5,659	1,915	19,447	...		9	20		13,467	32	10	60,041	1,216	315	226	157	66	71	25
08-09																					
09-10																					
10-11																					
11-12																					
12-13																					

TABLE XII.—*Stamps.*

Year.	Receipts from— Non-Judicial.	Court-fee including copies.	All sources.	Total charges.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	21,823	79,567	1,01,715	2,460
1891-92	22,248	[illegible]7,169	99,076	3,013
1892-93	22,693	79,642	1,02,541	2,389
1893-94	23,581	8[illegible],821	1,13,516	2,617
1894-95	25,732	87,733	1,13,585	2,692
1895-96	25,598	93,630	1,19,442	2,050
1896-97	29,479	91,527	1,21,068	2,141
1897-98	27,189	95,096	1,23,294	2,348
1898-99	24,653	98,406	1,24,859	1,990
1899-1900	27,066	1,05,937	1,34,932	2,392
1900-01	28,388	1,27,798	*1,58,266	2,026
1901-02	32,411	1,35,028	1,69,509	3,655
1902-03	30,437	1.30,167	1,62,674	3,644
1903-04	29,704	1 42,815	1,74,739	4,876
1904-05	27,887	1,32,637	1,62,422	4,338
1905-06	34,143	1,51,455	1,87,795	5,039
1906-07	31,601	1,52,602	1,86,363	4,517
1907-08	38,802	1,62,747	2,03,732	35,399
1908-09				
1909-10				
1910-11				
1911-12				
1912-13				

* Discount only.

TABLE XIII.—*Income-tax.*

Year.	Total receipts.	Collected by companies.		Profits of companies.		Other sources part IV.				Total charge.	Objections under part IV.	
						Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.				
		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Number filed.	Wholly or partly successful.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
1890-91	34,131	...	...	...	...	1,329	18,499	147	12,480	709	594	169
1891-92	33,397	...	...	...	...	1,263	18,691	163	11,580	846	675	155
1892-93	32,685	...	...	...	...	1,205	17,321	157	11,751	1,116	533	208
1893-94	33,163	...	...	...	...	1,291	17,277	142	12,472	641	811	335
1894-95	31,659	...	...	...	...	1,165	16,622	141	10,982	984	470	252
1895-96	27,671	...	...	...	...	1,030	15,666	108	8,787	267	292	57
1896-97	27,734	...	...	...	...	1,030	15,854	110	8,828	115	196	22
1897-98	37,339	...	...	...	...	1,045	17,910	188	16,394	1,201	655	187
1898-99	32,812		...	...	...	1,138	18,957	115	10,502	489	397	59
1899-1900	33,448	...	...	...	...	1,185	19,671	113	10,381	532	323	101
1900-01	35,801	...	...	...	...	1,139	19,236	134	12,766	180	273	71
1901-02	35,005	...	...	...	...	1,552	19,836	120	11,237	386	278	57
1992-03	36,036	...	...	...	...	1,162	19,927	118	11,253	899	423	105
1903-04	24,156	...	...	...	...	318	12,465	109	9,751	122	230	67
1904-05	24,532	...	...	...	...	424	11,682	110	9,227	63	236	49
1905-06	23,917	...	...	...	...	433	11,726	1[illegible]5	9,595	195	249	59
1906-07	23,129	...	...	...	...	433	11,555	104	9,043	39	186	4[illegible]
1907-08	23,202	...	...	...	...	437	11,645	109	8,979	16	157	
1908-09												
1909-1910												
1910-11												
1911-12												
1912-13												

TABLE XIV—(continued).—*Income-tax by tahsils (part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Etah. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.	Year.	Tahsil Kasganj. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.
1890-91 ..	383	5,586	53	4,204	1890-91 ...	373	4,905	48	4,304
1891-92 ...	359	5,352	67	4,608	1891-92 ...	349	5,140	52	3,884
1892-93 ...	364	5,028	57	4,385	1892-93	362	4,774	54	3,857
1893-94 ...	376	5,308	51	4,332	1893-94 ...	382	5,327	50	4,277
1894-95 ...	335	5,100	51	4,219	1894-95 ...	346	4,729	48	3,845
1895-96 ...	265	4,429	41	3,212	1895-96 .	357	5,280	34	2,796
1896-97 ...	278	4,621	43	3,436	1896-97 ...	350	5,200	34	1,991
1897-98 ...	281	5,308	92	7,971	1897-98 ...	356	5,774	48	3,999
1898-99 ...	333	5,843	32	2,920	1898-99 ...	388	6,531	43	3,740
1899-1900 ..	377	6,335	32	2,837	1899-1900 ...	395	6,694	46	4,049
1900-01 ...	373	6,356	41	3,511	1900-01 ...	376	6,274	45	4,530
1901-02 ...	383	6,716	30	2,806	1901-02 ...	369	6,228	50	4,449
1902-03 ...	379	6,652	28	2,599	1902-03 ...	389	6,505	49	4,249
1903-04 ...	124	3,614	29	2,587	1903-04 ...	129	3,479	48	4,102
1904-05 ...	132	3,796	38	2,848	1904-05 ...	127	3,471	41	3,519
1905-06 ...	140	3,809	34	2,965	1905-06 ...	128	3,431	43	3,654
1906-07 ...	140	3,807	34	2,877	1906-07 ...	125	3,322	42	3,482
1907-08 ...	142	3,900	31	2,631	1907-08 ...	128	3,431	49	3,895
1908-09 ...					1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...					1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...					1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...					1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...					1912-13 ...				

TABLE XIV—(*concluded*).—*Income-tax by tahsils (part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Aliganj. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Aliganj. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Aliganj. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Aliganj. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Year.	Tahsil Jalesar. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Jalesar. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Jalesar. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Jalesar. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.
1890-91 ...	210	3,497	22	1,954	1890-91 ...	363	4,511	24	2,018
1891-92 ...	226	3,745	17	1,237	1891-92 ...	329	4,454	27	1,852
1892-93 ...	175	3,178	18	1,324	1892-93 ...	304	4,341	28	1,985
1893-94 ...	190	3,116	17	1,324	1893-94 ...	343	3,526	24	2,639
1894-95 ...	200	3,168	18	1,328	1894-95 ...	384	3,625	24	1,590
1895-96 ...	170	2,754	16	1,170	1895-96 ...	238	3,203	17	1,509
1896-97 ...	164	2,714	16	1,188	1896-97 ...	238	3,319	17	1,712
1897-98 ...	193	3,517	25	2,388	1897-98 ...	215	3,311	23	2,036
1898-99 ...	189	2,992	17	1,239	1898-99 ...	228	3,591	23	2,603
1899-1900 ...	190	3,130	16	1,187	1899-1900 ...	223	3,512	19	2,309
1900-01 ...	177	3,229	34	2,898	1900-01 ...	213	3,377	14	1,827
1901-02 ...	184	3,414	28	2,313	1901-02 ...	216	3,478	12	1,669
1902-03 ...	183	3,242	31	2,525	1902-03 ...	211	3,428	10	1,878
1903-04 ...	199	3,618	21	1,497	1903-04 ...	66	1,454	11	1,563
1904-05 ...	85	2,350	20	1,382	1904-05 ...	80	2,065	11	1,476
1905-06 ...	86	2,376	19	1,606	1905-06 ...	79	2,110	9	1,369
1906-07 ...	85	2,285	20	1,425	1906-07 ...	83	2,146	8	1,258
1907-08 ...	86	2,265	21	1,482	1907-08 ...	81	2,049	8	971
1908-09 ...					1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...					1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...					1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...					1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...					1912-13 ...				

Table XV.—*District board.*

Year.	Receipts. Education.	Medical.	Scientific, etc.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Ferries.	Expenditure. Total expenditure.	Contributions to Provincial funds.	General administration.	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, etc.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	470	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	2,848	2,205	...	225	138	...	...	70,884	...	924	22,938	10,877	...	1,383	34,762	...	...
1891-92	2,994	3,056	...	190	21	...	...	70,279	...	1,030	22,273	11,091	...	1,579	34,306	...	...
1892-93	2,546	2,488	...	206	28	2,603	...	68,423	...	924	22,672	10,817	...	1,445	32,565	..	...
1893-94	2,740	2,527	...	281	...	2,273	...	68,567	...	939	22,957	10,804	...	1,479	32,388	...	...
1894-95	2,843	2,390	67	170	1,352	3,429	...	65,748	...	926	23,225	11,042	167	165	30,223	...	...
1895-96	3,093	2,961	80	214	1,052	3,461	...	65,348	...	957	22,965	10,564	176	166	30,520	..	...
1896-97	3,248	3,271	72	160	1,423	3,106	...	67,617	...	1,063	24,446	10,547	215	180	31,166	...	...
1897-98	3,469	3,969	71	1,380	2,197	5,388	...	67,637	...	907	24,718	9,835	240	...	31,937	...	...
1898-99	4,256	3,622	80	1,381	2,194	...	...	71,424	...	1,490	25,467	8,575	472	27	34,702	...	691
1899-00	4,026	3,607	70	1,379	1,830	*8,392	...	75,395	...	1,449	25,323	9,638	558	74	35,368	2,797	188
1900-01	4,282	3,913	76	1,692	1,508	8,973	†1,044	74,636	...	1,363	26,338	11,316	594	125	31,285	3,175	440
1901-02	5,295	3,721	...	496	2,206	10,170	1,180	74,647	...	1,474	26,744	10,863	593	185	31,505	3,183	100
1902-03	5,621	3,882	70	510	2,850	11,868	1,410	95,411	...	1,540	29,471	13,406	678	58	46,256	3,070	932
1903-04	5,347	4,284	90	575	1,597	10,597	1,660	1,02,472	...	1,546	31,314	13,434	739	62	50,672	3,184	1,521
1904-05	4,974	4,172	139	519	3,106	10,404	1,213	1,12,033	...	1,488	33,542	14,361	747	180	56,959	3,297	1,459
1905-06	5,709	4,435	...	573	1,461	7,970	1,478	1,24,812	...	1,917	37,248	15,835	704	195	65,791	2,685	437
1906-07	7,204	3,708	1	713	1,450	7,015	1,495	1,13,746	...	2,229	41,073	13,682	954	267	52,483	2,559	499
1907-08	10,446	3,659	...	850		8,919	1,105	1,23,274	...	2,782	45,340	13,519	1,562	260	56,447	2,601	763
1908-09																	
1909-10																	
1910-11																	
1911-12																	
1912-13																	
1913-14																	

* Formerly net receipts only were shown. From this year receipts and also expenditure are given.

† From this year the gross receipts from ferries were for the first time credited to the district board.

TABLE XVI.—*Municipality of Etah.*

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water-supply and drainage.		Conservancy.	Hospitals and dispensaries.	Public works.	Public Instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
										Capital.	Maintenance.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	7,839	...	..	9,476	...	2,427	19,742	1,621	2,862	...	...	2,252	732	8,126	545	996	17,134
1891-92 ...	7,985	...	...	78	...	3,797	11,860	1,524	2,407	558	204	3,104	448	2,237	462	821	11,765
1892-93 ...	8,145	...	...	153	...	3,118	11,416	1,640	2,539	...	1,083	1,904	454	1,389	481	2,649	12,139
1893-94 ...	9,268	...	...	170	...	2,813	12,251	1,767	2,288	342	557	3,073	436	1,030	490	875	10,858
1894-95 ...	8,867	...	...	200	...	2,824	11,891	1,686	2,353	186	77	2,603	385	2,592	472	2,295	12,649
1895-96 ...	9,472	...	...	167	...	3,866	13,505	1,805	2,449	2,068	721	2,997	669	1,413	472	1,178	13,772
1896-97 ..	8,982	...	...	213	...	3,527	12,722	1,733	1,738	...	181	3,100	2,263	1,407	471	1,300	13,233
1897-98 ...	8,675	...	...	209	...	3,693	12,577	1,770	2,425	...	309	2,835	2,001	588	472	993	11,393
1898-99 ...	8,709	...	...	216	..	3,320	12,245	1,751	2,405	...	231	2,671	952	780	472	1,088	10,350
1899-1900	8,949	...	...	174	...	3,684	12,807	2,074	2,312	...	41	3,077	1,139	1,907	472	3,321	14,343
1900-01 ...	10,213	...	...	189	...	6,046	16,448	2,171	2,415	...	27	4,108	1,572	1,424	583	972	13,272
1901-02 ...	12,033	...	...	1,509	7,000	7,077	27,619	2,530	2,533	8,992	4	2,523	1,315	1,423	673	4,300	24,293
1902-03 ...	12,529	...	159	1,426	...	4,217	18,331	3,136	2,776	...	145	2,823	1,483	2,544	779	6,215	19,951
1903-04 ...	13,588	...	147	1,677	...	5,787	21,199	3,164	2,561	...	1,323	8,193	1,526	2,084	1,105	3,344	23,300
1904-05 ...	10,221	...	1,471	1,907	...	5,965	19,564	3,600	2,761	...	439	5,615	1,349	1,813	951	3,110	19,638
1905-06 ...	11,150	...	1,554	2,542	...	4,632	19,878	4,352	2,149	532	168	5,403	1,460	2,197	1,009	2,776	20,046
1906-07 ...	11,501	...	1,549	3,100	...	4,431	20,581	3,525	1,343	241	282	5,606	1,496	2,777	1,072	3,279	19,621
1907-08 ...	11,825	...	1,549	3,405	...	5,303	22,082	4,027	2,044	42	140	6,095	1,401	1,838	1,153	5,012	21,752
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	

TABLE XVI.—*Municipality of Soron.*

Year.	Income							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water supply and drainage. Capital.	Water supply and drainage. Maintenance.	Conservancy.	Hospitals and dispensaries.	Public works.	Public instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	7,818	...	...	511	...	886	9,275	1,663	2,291	...	...	1,482	400	1,836	640	1,396	9,708
1891-92	8,070	...	...	27	...	1,552	9,649	1,658	2,428	714	37	1,863	413	655	510	1,291	9,569
1892-93	7,834	...	...	28	...	1,954	9,816	1,659	2,214	...	245	1,616	400	1,561	404	1,500	9,599
1893-94	8,988	...	...	42	...	1,371	10,401	1,726	2,362	...	...	1,848	400	1,857	412	761	9,366
1894-95	6,829	...	...	49	...	1,827	8,705	1,705	2,399	...	683	1,951	400	427	384	1,499	9,448
1895-96	10,077	...	...	49	...	1,701	11,827	1,739	2,832	...	243	2,124	400	1,788	384	1,016	10,526
1896-97	8,580	...	...	40	...	1,691	10,311	2,035	2,751	...	610	2,343	400	439	588	660	9,826
1897-98	6,974	...	...	28	...	1,722	8,724	1,860	2,789	...	475	2,202	400	355	636	522	9,239
1898-99	11,923	...	...	30	...	2,128	14,081	1,836	2,582	...	475	2,416	400	1,184	638	506	10,067
1899-1900	6,996	...	...	32	...	2,330	9,358	2,012	2,694	...	668	2,321	400	229	619	705	9,648
1900-01	10,358	...	118	39	...	2,793	13,308	2,016	2,787	...	488	2,346	663	1,855	684	735	11,574
1901-02	10,547	...	106	44	...	3,886	14,583	4,007	3,197	661	14	3,354	723	2,297	745	583	15,584
1902-03	12,717	...	106	57	...	3,240	16,120	3,112	3,163	...	298	3,105	575	2,451	758	1,013	14,475
1903-04	8,373	...	1,108	558	...	5,200	15,239	3,011	3,692	...	1,397	4,069	575	4,567	852	1,523	19,686
1904-05	10,059	...	770	599	...	3,779	15,207	3,038	3,424	118	112	3,754	575	2,444	1,015	1,610	16,090
1905-06	10,575	...	670	603	...	2,619	14,467	3,626	2,602	...	996	4,306	575	582	1,160	1,340	15,187
1906-07	12,202	...	527	123	...	3,953	16,805	3,594	1,008	417	139	4,510	575	1,295	1,111	1,928	14,577
1907-08	11,804	...	530	121	...	3,751	15,706	4,265	1,253	513	141	5,219	575	1,721	965	1,986	16,638
1908-09																	
1909-1910																	
1910-11																	
1911-12																	
1912-13																	
1913-14																	

Table XVI.—*Municipality of Jalesar.*

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on house and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety	Water supply and drainage: Capital.	Water supply and drainage: Maintenance.	Conservancy.	Hospitals and dispensaries.	Public works.	Public instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	8,491	...	...	245	...	1,463	10,199	1,681	2,592	...	...	1,861	360	2,657	195	871	10,217
1891-92	7,927	...	..	267	...	581	8,775	1,717	2,632	540	134	1,990	360	352	185	968	8,878
1892-93	8,579	...	...	230	...	578	9,387	1,686	2,847	...	34	1,805	360	1,405	180	700	9,017
1893-94	9,454	...	...	343	...	569	10,366	1,865	2,340	...	...	1,755	360	1,183	199	740	8,442
1894-95	9,336	...	...	331	...	678	10,345	1,988	2,256	...	58	2,322	350	2,133	199	1,347	10,663
1895-96	10,948	...	...	648	...	950	12,546	1,936	2,714	541	241	2,348	365	838	221	1,450	10,654
1896-97	9,515	...	...	423	...	1,075	11,013	2,081	2,799	166	59	2,453	917	3,911	257	911	13,554
1897-98	9,085	..	...	468	...	949	10,502	1,702	2,709	...	133	2,201	390	513	295	907	8,850
1898-99	9,692	...	...	527	...	950	11,169	1,718	2,667	...	87	2,555	360	492	276	940	9,095
1899-1900	9,636	...	...	488	...	993	11,117	2,069	2,999	...	91	2,552	360	2,392	288	1,208	11,959
1900-01	9,365	...	...	491	...	990	10,846	2,021	2,901	...	113	2,292	570	1,710	502	968	11,077
1901-02	9,829	...	...	496	2,000	1,099	13,424	2,214	2,819	3,000	15	2,078	652	1,265	681	1,703	14,517
1902-03	10,219	...	...	327	...	1,348	11,894	2,181	2,869	...	75	2,026	547	981	570	1,376	10,625
1903-04	11,314	...	...	507	...	2,578	14,399	1,960	2,874	1,220	468	2,816	460	881	596	2,040	13,315
1904-05	9,810	..	...	553	...	2,106	12,469	2,254	2,894	...	173	2,448	456	1,236	609	3,295	13,365
1905-06	11,087	...	...	498	...	1,467	13,052	2,983	1,955	...	310	3,254	430	2,352	643	1,022	12,949
1906-07	10,876	...	...	523	...	1,760	13,159	2,929	1,023	141	361	5,318	428	545	731	2,120	13,596
1907-08	9,801	...	...	460	...	1,560	11,821	2,957	1,064	290	100	4,151	427	2,052	736	1,782	14,359
1908-09																	
1909-10																	
1910-11																	
1911-12																	
1912-13																	
1913-14																	

Table XVI.—*Municipality of Kasganj.*

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water supply and drainage. Capital.	Water supply and drainage. Maintenance.	Conservancy.	Hospitals and dispensaries.	Public works.	Public instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91...	11,557	...	...	169	...	1,211	12,937	2,462	2,498	...	...	2,740	487	2,531	940	1,096	12,754
1891-92...	11,211	...	...	54	...	1,268	12,533	2,710	2,786	...	467	2,481	360	1,027	1,989	955	12,775
1892-93...	10,979	...	...	60	...	1,639	12,678	2,580	2,425	500	134	2,121	410	2,320	1,002	1,031	12,523
1893-94...	12,529	...	...	216	...	1,280	14,025	2,488	2,774	...	...	2,383	360	1,480	1,346	422	11,253
1894-95...	12,441	...	134	245	12,000	1,785	26,605	2,822	2,800	...	411	3,378	360	1,189	1,004	1,091	13,055
1895-96...	13,927	...	77	278	...	1,844	16,126	2,817	3,006	10,328	348	4,053	360	2,732	1,004	2,106	26,754
1896-97...	13,880	...	73	332	...	2,071	16,356	2,562	3,115	...	2	3,226	360	1,661	1,050	1,443	13,419
1897-98...	13,988	...	93	40	...	2,264	16,385	2,716	3,174	...	92	3,392	463	2,148	1,069	1,610	14,664
1898-99...	13,853	...	113	24	...	2,524	16,514	2,718	2,933	...	312	3,925	460	1,367	1,080	6,033	18,828
1899-1900	14,041	...	111	24	...	2,616	16,792	3,106	3,038	500	293	4,558	474	762	1,088	7,991	21,810
1900-01...	14,957	...	119	68	...	3,466	18,610	4,046	3,575	...	405	3,405	778	1,351	1,315	753	15,628
1901-02...	16,956	...	160	89	...	3,167	20,372	4,072	3,559	200	50	3,754	400	2,108	1,391	1,938	17,472
1902-03...	16,951	...	670	131	...	4,345	22,097	4,539	3,709	4,000	89	4,932	567	3,173	1,023	1,620	23,652
1903-04...	16,099	...	879	411	...	4,207	21,596	4,091	4,431	4,823	...	4,831	567	1,737	1,384	1,189	23,053
1904-05...	16,643	...	819	328	...	4,207	21,997	6,070	3,761	...	3,651	4,660	567	1,401	1,537	2,140	23,787
1905-06...	17,996	...	890	242	...	3,976	23,104	5,281	2,736	...	2,006	5,964	567	1,197	1,585	2,415	21,751
1906-07...	17,216	...	733	288	...	3,673	21,910	5,324	1,481	...	1,619	5,852	512	3,396	1,740	1,817	21,741
1907-08...	18,437	...	712	221	...	4,446	23,816	4,616	2,312	570	738	6,734	507	2,656	1,544	3,431	23,108
1908-09...																	
1909-10...																	
1910-11...																	
1911-12...																	
1912-13...																	
1913-14...																	

TABLE XVII.—*Distribution of Police,* 1908

Thana.			Sub-Inspectors.	Head-constables.	Constables.	Town police.	Rural police.	Road police.
1			2	3	4	5	6	7
Nidhauli	...	...	2	1	9	6	78	6
Aliganj	...	..	2	1	12	19	144	4
Patiali	...	...	2	1	12	17	80	...
Soron ...	...	...	2	3	36	...	111	10
Jalesar	...	..	2	4	36	...	123	6
Kasganj	...	...	2	4	42	6	97	4
Marehra	...	...	2	2	24	...	76	14
Etah ...	...	...	2	3	30	...	146	18
Sakit ...	...	...	2	1	12	6	80	6
Jaithra	...	...	2	1	9	...	100	4
Sahawar	...	...	2	1	9	9	77	...
Sirhpura	...	...	1	1	9	4	53	...
Bhadwas	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...
Kadirganj	...	...	1	1	9	5	58	...
Amanpur	...	...	1	1	6	5	76	...
Awah ...	...	...	2	1	6	7	54	2
Umargarh	...	...	1	1	6	...	48	...
Malawan	...	...	1	1	6	...	71	8
Civil Reserve	...	...	4	12	78	...	...	...
Armed Police	...	...	1	17	94	...	...	...
Total		...	35	58	448	84	1,472	82

TABLE XVIII.—*Education*.

Years.	Total.			Secondary education.			Primary education.		
	Schools and Colleges.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.	
		Males.	Fe-males.		Males.	Fe-males.		Males.	Fe-males.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1896-97 ...	128	4,848	121	7	930	...	120	3,889	121
1897-98 ...	126	4,645	105	8	922	...	117	3,679	051
1898-99 ...	127	4,845	113	8	919	...	118	3,858	113
1899-1900.	132	4,888	141	8	980	...	123	3,874	141
1900-01 ...	131	4,789	193	8	972	...	122	3,813	193
1901-02 ...	145	5,303	137	8	997	...	136	4,304	371
1902-03 ...	203	6,278	422	8	975	...	195	5,303	422
1903-04 ...	234	6,938	620	8	951	...	226	5,987	620
1904-05 ...	235	6,262	626	8	750	...	227	5,512	626
1905-06 ...	212	6,531	637	9	1,077	...	203	5,504	637
1906-07 ...	217	7,382	787	8	1,240	...	209	6,142	787
1907-08 ...	218	7,181	876	7	1,127	...	211	6,054	768
1908-09 ...									
1909-10 ...									
1910-11 ...									
1911-12 ...									
1912-13 ...									
1913-14 ...									

List of schools of the Etah district, 1908.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of school.	Average attendance.
Etah ...	Etah-Sakit ...	Etah ...	Secondary district high school.	100
		Do ...	Middle vernacular.	90
		Sakit ...	Upper primary...	73
		Bagwala ...	Ditto ...	53
		Rajor ...	Ditto ...	35
		Milauli ...	Ditto ...	44
		Jarasmi ...	Ditto	31
		Kabar ...	Ditto ...	50
		Chamkari ...	Ditto ...	24
		Barauli ...	Lower primary...	43
		Sena ...	Ditto ...	18
		Ishara ...	Ditto ...	25
		Chandpur ...	Ditto ...	14
		Marthra ...	Ditto ...	27
		Phapotu ...	Ditto ...	22
		Neorai ...	Ditto ...	44
		Kakrauli ...	Ditto ...	20
		Pawans ...	Ditto ...	20
		Nidholi Khurd ...	Ditto ...	26
		Loya Badshahpur.	Ditto ...	16
		Isapur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Nigoh Husanpur Mubarakpur	Ditto aided.	14
		Chachena ...	Ditto ...	12
		Khandua ...	Ditto ...	16
		Ahmadabad .	Ditto ...	23
		Bigaur ...	Ditto ..	20
		Rarpatti ...	Ditto ...	19
		Kakrara ...	Ditto ...	17
		Kuthalia Laikpur.	Ditto ...	18
		Chintapur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Kansuri ...	Ditto ...	12
		Kartala ...	Ditto ...	27
		Etah ...	Girls' school lower primary municipal.	20
		Neorai ...	Lower primary D. B.	16
		Basundra ...	Ditto ...	31
		Sakit ...	Ditto ...	15
		Milauli ...	Ditto ...	15
		Marthra ..	Ditto ..	16
		Etah Dau Dyal...	Lower primary (boys) municipal aided.	41
		Etah Badri Narulu.	Ditto ...	19
		Etah Daim Ali ...	Ditto ...	17
		Etah Turab-uddin.	Ditto ...	15
		Etah Ujagar Lal	Ditto ...	13
		Etah Niaz Md. Khan.	Ditto ...	20

List of schools of Etah district 1908—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of school.	Average attendance.
Etah *concluded.*	Marehra ...	Nidhauli Kalan...	Upper primary ...	60
		Marahchi ...	Ditto ...	57
		Marehra ...	Ditto ...	68
		Pilwa ...	Ditto ...	44
		Basundra ...	Ditto ...	18
		Barai ...	Lower primary...	24
		Songra ...	Ditto ...	29
		Rustamgarh ...	Ditto ...	7
		Dholesar ...	Ditto ...	26
		Gahetu ...	Ditto ...	22
		Bhadwas ...	Ditto ...	21
		Dharmai ...	Ditto ...	27
		Achalpur ...	Ditto ...	16
		Lodhamai ...	Ditto ...	66
		Tilokpur ...	Ditto ...	
		Sarnau ...	Ditto ...	24
		Baosa ...	Ditto ...	18
		Marehra Bihari Lal.	Ditto ...	27
		Do. Misri Lal.	Ditto ...	26
		Do. Kadir Ahmad.	Ditto ...	25
		Margyaun ...	Ditto aided.	17
		Mohi-ud-dinpur...	Ditto ...	25
		Sirsa Tabbu ...	Ditto ...	16
		Horchi ...	Ditto ...	12
		Garwala ...	Ditto ...	13
		Piwari ...	Ditto ...	20
		Sunna ...	Ditto ...	10
		Arabpura ...	Ditto ...	23
		Jitauli ...	Ditto ...	8
		Kapreta ...	Ditto ...	16
	Sonhar ...	Sonhar ...	Lower primary...	10
		Jamlapur ...	Ditto ...	14
		Malawan ...	Upper primary...	32
		Jamlapur ...	Girls' lower primary.	12
Kasganj	Bilram ...	Kasganj ...	Mission high school.	90
		Ditto ...	Middle vernacular.	98
		Ditto ...	Upper primary ...	39
		Bilram ...	Ditto ...	53
		Kantaur ...	Ditto ...	41
		Garhi ...	Lower primary ...	17
		Alipur ...	Ditto ...	8
		Nadrai ...	Ditto ...	23
		Jakhera ...	Ditto aided.	22
		Jakhera ...	Ditto girls'	18
		Mubarikpur Muafi.	Ditto aided.	14
		Kinawa ...	Ditto ...	25
		Gurehna ...	Ditto ...	10

List of schools of Etah district, 1908—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Kasganj	Bilram	Barari Bais ...	Lower primary, aided.	10
		Kasganj Kanhiya Lal.	Municipal Do. aided.	24
		Do. Md. Husain.	Ditto ...	36
		Do. Ghulam Husain.	Ditto ...	28
		Do. Md. Ata Husain.	Ditto ...	28
		Do. Kundan Lal.	Ditto ...	24
		Do. Deo Datt ...	Ditto ...	22
		Do. Dhuri Lal ...	Ditto ...	14
		Kasganj ...	Model girls' school, lower primary.	14
		Ditto ...	District board girls' lower primary.	29
	Pachlana	Kurhara ...	Lower primary ...	27
		Kurhara ..	Ditto girls'.	18
		Kisrauli ...	Ditto boys'.	19
		Nimeni ...	Ditto ...	9
		Kamrawa ...	Ditto ...	20
	Aulai ...	Baznagar ...	Ditto aided.	14
	Sirhpura	Sirhpura ...	Upper primary ...	51
		Sarawal ...	Lower primary ...	14
		Pilkhuni ...	Ditto ...	42
		Arjunpur ...	Ditto ...	25
		Sheikhpur Hande	Ditto ...	16
		Daheli Buzurg ...	Ditto aided	29
		Sikehra ...	Ditto ...	10
		Bhujpura ...	Ditto ...	26
		Nuri ...	Ditto ...	4
		Dundra ...	Ditto ...	8
	Sahawar	Sahawar ...	Upper primary.	96
		Amanpur ...	Ditto aided	53
		Sahawar ...	Girls' lower primary.	15
		Ditto ...	Lower Primary aided.	29
		Mohanpur ...	Ditto Girls'	9
		Mohanpur ...	Upper primary ...	62
		Sarsai Naru ...	Lower primary ...	21
		Pharauli ...	Ditto ...	22
		Nawabganj ...	Ditto ...	16
		Lakhimpur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Khajpur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Amaras ...	Ditto ...	13
		Pithanpur ...	Ditto aided.	38
		Deori ...	Ditto ...	17
		Sikandrabad ...	Ditto ...	24

List of schools of Etah district, 1908—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of Schools.	Average attendance.
Kasganj *concluded.*	Soron ...	Soron ...	M. E. upper primary.	119
		Soron Naim Ullah	Lower M. E. aided.	25
		Soron	Girls' D. B. lower primary.	29
Aliganj .		Reghpur ...	Lower primary...	27
	Patiali ...	Patiali ...	Upper primary...	65
		Ganj Dundwara...	Ditto ...	72
		Pursari ...	Lower primary...	20
		Cheraula ...	Ditto ...	14
	Azamnagar ...	Aliganj ...	Middle vernacular	84
		Ditto ...	Lower primary aided.	20
		Ditto ...	Girls' ...	20
		Sarai Aghat ...	Upper primary...	35
		Targawan ...	Ditto ...	41
		Majhola ...	Lower primary...	22
		Thana Darioganj.	Ditto ...	16
		Geryagawan ...	Ditto ...	16
		Jaithra ...	Ditto ...	24
		Dharauli ...	Ditto ...	18
		Dhatingra ...	Ditto ...	18
		Sasotadoshpur ...	Ditto ...	22
		Harsinghpur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Lohari Khera ...	Ditto ...	18
		Shahpur Tehla ...	Girls' ditto ...	16
		Saraunth ...	Girls' ditto ...	10
		Rampur ...	Upper primary...	60
		Saraunth ...	Ditto ...	61
		Pipergaon ...	Lower primary ..	24
		Bilsar patti ...	Ditto ...	46
		Akberpur Kot ...	Ditto ...	17
		Bulaki Nugar ...	Ditto aided	16
		Bhargain ...	Ditto ...	30
	Nidhpur ...	Kadirganj ...	Upper primary...	45
		Badhola ...	Ditto ...	47
		Kusaul ...	Lower primary...	30
		Nawabganj Nagaria.	Ditto ...	9
		Nardauli ...	Ditto ...	32
		Miyao ...	Ditto ...	21
		Shamshpur ...	Ditto ...	21
		Sanauri ...	Ditto aided	19
		Miao ...	Ditto ...	21
	Barna ...	Dhumeri ...	Lower primary...	18
		Rupdhani ...	Ditto ...	20
		Phagnaul ...	Ditto ...	20
		Utarna ...	Ditto ...	23

List of schools of Etah district—(concluded).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of schools.	Average attendance.
Jalesar ...	Jalesar ..	Jalesar ...	Middle vernacular.	148
		Do. Chakan Lal.	Lower primary aided.	18
		Jalesar Md. Rafiq	Aided Primary ...	35
		Do. Basdeo ...	Ditto ...	18
		Do. Bhudeo Pershad.	Ditto ...	15
		Awagarh ...	Middle verncular	92
		Ditto ...	Girls' lower primary.	15
		Jalesar Rajmal.	Upper primary...	43
		Pilkhatra ...	Ditto ...	43
		Uuchagaon ...	Ditto ...	45
		Ditto ...	Lower primary girls'.	16
		Nohkhera ...	Lower primary...	15
		Isauli ...	Ditto ...	26
		Pharipur Bhondela.	Ditto ...	32
		Jirauli Kalan ...	Ditto ...	21
		Sarai Nim ...	Ditto ...	25
		Murswan ...	Ditto ...	25
		Bara Shamspur ...	Ditto ...	24
		Jamon ...	Ditto ...	18
		Baghai ...	Ditto ...	20
		Bara Bhondela ...	Ditto ...	25
		Rejua ...	Ditto ...	22
		Do. ...	Girls' ditto aided.	25
		Punehra ...	Lower primary...	22
		Misauli ...	Ditto aided	17
		Kuswa ...	Ditto ...	21
		Borra Kalan ...	Ditto ...	10
		Mosa Kalar ...	Ditto ...	20
		Badholi ...	Ditto ...	13
		Rohna Mirzapur.	Ditto ...	12
		Rajpur Narora...	Aided Do, Awah...	16
		Shakrauli ...	Ditto ...	34

ROADS, 1908.	Length.		
	Miles	fur.	ft.
A.—Provincial.			
I.—Metalled, bridged and drained throughout.			
Grand Trunk road—			
(i) Aligarh, Etah and Cawnpore section	26	6	167
(ii) Muttra, Kasganj and Bareilly Trunk road ...	25	7	610
(iii) Railway approach road from Muttra, Kasganj and Bareilly trunk road to Kasganj railway station on Rajputana-Malwa Railway	0	1	540 583
(iv) Railway approach road from Muttra, Kasganj and Bareilly trunk road to Soron Railway station on Rajputana-Malwa Railway	0	2	330
Total ...	53	3	250
I(A).—First-class metalled roads, bridged and drained throughout.			
(i) Aliganj to Majhola road	9	9	0
(ii) Etah to Kasganj road	15	0	0
(iii) Etah to Marehra road	1	5	0
(iv) Etah to Shikohabad road	12	0	0
(v) Etah viâ Awah to Jalesar road	26	2	0
(vi) Ganj Dundwara railway station road	0	4	0
(vii) Jalesar to Muttra road	7	0	0
(viii) Marahchi to Marehra road	4	6	0
(ix) Pahara Rampur and Radhani road	4	2	0
(x) Patiali railway approach road	0	7	0
(xi) Aspur to Sakit road	3	7	79
Town roads	0	1	322
(xii) Patiali road	0	4	560
(xiii) Aliganj road	0	5	117
(xiv) Ganj Dundwara road	0	3	120
(xv) Sakit road		...	
Total ...	86	7	533
II(A).—Second-class unmetalled roads, bridged and drained throughout.			
(i) Aliganj (Patiali) and Kasganj road	9	4	0
(ii) Etah, Aliganj and Farrukhabad road	37	0	0
(iii) Aliganj Circle road	4	0	0
(iv) Etah and Marehra road	10	4	0
(v) Marehra to Nidholi road	5	0	0
(vi) Etah, Nidholi and Jalesar road	15	0	0
(vii) Soron, Patiali, Ganj Dundwara and Aliganj road ...	30	0	0
(viii) Etah and Sakit road	10	0	0
(xi) Kasganj, Mainpuri and Sahawar road	17	0	0
(x) Division road round drainage cut	1	1	0
Total ...	139	1	0
II(B).—Second-class unmetalled roads, partially bridged and drained.			
(i) Etah and Patiali road	22	0	0
(ii) Etah, Awah and Tundla road	10	0	0
(iii) Etah, Amanpur and Sahawar road	20	0	0
Total ...	52	0	0

ROADS, 1908—(*concluded*).	Length.		
III.—Third-class roads, banked and surfaced.	Miles	fur.	ft.
(i) Jalesar and Firozabad road	10	0	0
(ii) Etah road	6	6	0
(iii) Marehra and Mohanpur road	3	0	0
(iv) Kasganj and Sahawar road	11	0	0
(v) Sahawar and Ali Ghat road	7	0	0
(vi) Patiali and Dhumri road	10	4	0
(vii) Ditto Kasganj road	9	0	0
(viii) Nidhauli and Nagarya road	4	0	0
(ix) Ganj Dundwara and Sirhpura road	8	0	0
(x) Sirhpura and Asupur road	11	0	0
(xi) Soron and Garhia Ghat road	4	0	0
Total ...	84	2	0
IV.—Fourth-class roads, cleared, partially bridged and drained.			
(i) Jalesar to Agra road	6	0	0
(ii) Aliganj to Sarai Aghat road	11	0	0
(iii) Ditto Rampur road	5	0	0
(iv) Ditto Kampil road	8	0	0
(v) Amanpur to Dundwara road	13	0	0
(vi) Awah to Nidholi road	5	0	0
(vii) Dhumri to Kuraoli road	8	0	0
(viii) Dundwara to Sundramghat road	10	0	0
(ix) Jalesar to Hathras road	6	0	0
(x) Ditto Umarghat road	9	0	0
(xi) Marehra to Kachura road	4	4	0
(xii) Ditto Nagharia road	7	0	0
(xiii) Sahawar to Sirhpura road	11	0	0
Total ...	103	4	0
V.—Fifth-class roads, cleared only.			
(i) Aliganj to Bhongaon road	12	0	0
(ii) Ditto Kaimganj road	5	C	0
(iii) Ditto Mainpuri road	7	0	0
(iv) Ditto Karoli road	10	0	0
(v) Ditto Panthor road	3	0	0
(vi) Amanpur to Marahchi road	7	0	0
(vii) Chilmanpurghat to Dhumri road	9	0	0
(viii) Kasganj to Dharparghat road	15	0	0
(x) Kasganj to Soron road	7	0	0
(xi) Kadirganj viâ Sundrain to Budaun road	3	0	0
(xii) Kasganj to Kumauran road	11	0	0
(xiii) Kampil to Patiali road	4	0	0
(xiv) Sirhpura to Pahmalur Shajpur road	10	0	0
(xv) Sakit to Paron road	6	0	0
Total ...	109	0	0
GRAND TOTAL ...	628	2	128

FERRIES, 1908.

River.	Ferry.	Pargana.	Village.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
	Lalpur, Jahangirabad ...	Barna ...	Lalpur ...	Aliganj	District Board ...	1000
	Partabpur, Katara ..	Azamnagar ..	Partabpur, Katara ...			
	Sahara ...		Nagla, Jagrup ...		District Board ...	660
	Inchpur ...		Mawhat ...		Private ...	200
	Oan ...		Oan ...		Ditto ...	40
	Garhi ...		Garhi ...		Ditto ...	135
	Kabirpur ...		Kabirpur ...		Ditto ...	38
	Mirzapur ...	Etah-Sakit	Mirzapur ...	Etah	Ditto ...	...
	Jalalpur ...		Jalalpur ...		Ditto ...	25
	Narauli ..		Narauli ..		Ditto ...	...
	Sonsa ...		Sonsa ..		Ditto ...	...
	Dhumri ..		Rajpur ...		Ditto ...	...
Kali Nadi.	Nagaria ...		Jhingan ..		Ditto ...	...
	Jhingan ...		Nari ..		Ditto ...	...
	Ujaipur ...		Bakawli ..		Ditto ...	30
	Oan ..		Hamirpur ...		Ditto ...	40
	Hamirpur ...	Sidhpur	Dhundra ...		Ditto ...	120
	Dhundra ...		Gangsara ..		Ditto ...	40
	Gangsara ...		Sarawal ...		Ditto ..	50
	Narauli ..		Shyampur ...		Ditto ..	12
	Gadhai ...		Jalipur ...	Kasganj	Ditto ...	...
	Mirghat, Mohara ...	Sahawar	Sikandrabad,		Ditto ...	...
	Ditto		Bhagona ..		Ditto ...	...
	Narai ...		Deoni ...		Ditto ...	...
	Madadpur Datawali ...	Bilram	Nadrai ..		Ditto ...	...
			Madadpur ...		Ditto ...	...
			Amarpur ..		Ditto ..	...
					Ditto ...	...

POST OFFICES, 1908.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Office.	Class.	Management.
Etah ...	Etah ...	Etah ...	Head office ...	Imperial.
Aliganj ...	Barna ...	Dhumri ...	Branch office ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Barna Azamnagar.	Jaithra ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Etah-Sakit ...	Marehra ...	Nidhauli ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Kasganj ...	Sirhpura ...	Sirhpura ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Aliganj ...	Azamnagar ...	Aliganj ...	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Sarai Ahgat ...	Branch office ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Sarauth ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Jalesar ...	Jalesar ...	Awagarh ...	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Etah ...	Marehra ...	Bisondra ..	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
Aliganj ...	Patiali ...	Ganj Dundwara.	Branch office ...	Ditto.
Kasganj ...	Sahawar ..	Mohanpur ...	Sub-office ..	Ditto.
Jalesar ...	Jalesar ...	Jalesar (town)	Branch office ...	Ditto.
		Fisher Ganj ...	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
		Nanpkhera ...	Branch office ...	Ditto
		Umargarh ...	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Kasganj ...	Bilram ..	Kasganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Sahawar ..	Amanpur ...	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Barahdwari ...	Branch office ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Bilram ...	Bilram ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Etah ...	Marehra ...	Marechi ...	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Kasganj ...	Sidhpur ...	Narai ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Sahawar ...	Sahawar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Etah ...	Marehra ...	Marahra ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Aliganj ...	Patiali ...	Patiali ..	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
	Nidhpur ...	Kadirganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Azamgarh ...	Raja-ka-Rampur.	Branch office ...	Ditto.
			Ditto ..	Ditto.
	Nidhpur ...	Thana Daraio Ganj.	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Etah ...	Etah-Sakit ..	Sakit ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Ditto ..	Malawan ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Rajaur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Kasganj ...	Soron ...	Soron ...	Sub-office ...	Ditto.

MARKETS, 1908.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Market Days.
Etah.	Etah-Sakit	Milauli	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Baroli	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Neorai	Sunday and Thursday.
		Etah (Bhagipur)	Monday and Friday.
		Sakit	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Rajaur	Monday and Friday.
	Marehra	Marehra	Monday and Friday.
		Mirichi	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Pewari	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Pilwa	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Mohanli Kalan	Tuesday and Saturday.
Kasganj.	Aulai	Muazzanpoor	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Hisanpur	
		Manpur Nagaria	Monday and Thursday.
	Faizpur Badaria.	Salempur	Monday and Friday.
		Yaklehar	Sunday.
		Kadarhair	Wednesday.
		Badariya	Monday and Friday.
		Mahmudpur	Sunday.
	Sahawar	Mohanpur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Amanpur	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Sahawar	Do. Do.
	Bilram	Kasganj	Do. Do.
Aliganj.	Azamnagar	Sarai Aghat	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Aliganj	Saturday, Monday and Thursday.
		Alipur	Tuesday and Friday.
		Rampur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Thana Dariaoganj	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Barna	Dhumri	Sunday and Wednesdey.
		Rupdhian	Monday and Wednesday.
	Patiali	Dundwaraganj	Monday and Thursday.
	Nidhpur	Hardoli	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Kadirganj	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Badhhola	Do. Do.
		Nawabganj	Do. Do.
Jalesar.	Jalesar	Awa	Monday and Saturday.
		Pilkhatra	Sunday.

FAIRS, 1908.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Name of fair.	Date.	Average attendance.
Etah.	Etah-Sakit.	Milaoli ...	Ram Naumi ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	300
		Neorai ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	600
		Nagla Jagrup	Mahadeo ...	Bhadon sudi 6th ...	250
		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Phagun sudi 13th	200
		Marthra ...	Deota ...	Asarh every Monday.	100
		Ditto ...	Do. ...	Magh every Monday	100
		Jirismai ...	Ram Naumi ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	400
		Badshahpur...	Jakhaya ...	Asarh every Sunday	100
		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Magh every Sunday.	100
		Etah ...	Saraogi ...	Kuar badi 1st ...	1,000
			Bunyas ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	400
			Hanuman Gadhi...	Chait sudi 1st ...	500
			Bhutesar ...	Chait sadi 2nd ...	400
			Pathwari ...	Chait badi 8th ...	400
			Bunya Baraseni ..	Phagun sudi 11th	500
			Ram Lila ...	Kuar badi 11th till Kuar sudi 12th.	2,500
			Tazia ...	Muharram ...	15,000
		Sakit ...	Ram Naumi ...	Chait badi 9th ...	500
			Saraogi ...	Kuar badi 2nd ...	250
			Debi ...	Chait sudi 8th ...	300
	Sonhar	Malawan ...	Deota ...	Every Monday ...	125
		Sawansah ...	Mahadeo ..	Phagun badi 13th	1,000
		Ditto ...	Ditto ..	Bhadon sudi 6th...	1,000
		Dattlai ...	Ram Naumi ..	Chait sudi 6th ...	800
		Geroura ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	800
	Marehra	Pilioa ...	*Hati* ...	*Baisakh badi 3rd* ...	800
		Mohanti Kar-lau.	*Phul Dol* ...	*Chait badi 4th* ...	1,200
		Bhadwas ...	Deochhata ...	Bhadjon sudi 6th	250
		Jhanwar ...	Ram Naumi ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	150
		Fatehpur II	Marag Sri ...	Aghan sudi 11th ...	250
			Dasehra ...	Jeth sudi 10th ...	300
		Gadenpur...	Marag Sri ...	Aghan sudi 11th ...	150
			Dasehra ...	Jeth sudi 10th ...	200
		Baosa ...	Shib Tarane Mahadeoji.	Phagun sudi 13th	250
			Deo Chhatta ...	Bhadon sudi 6th ...	200
		Basundra ...	Ram Naumi ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	250
Kasganj.	Aulai ...	Mohammad-pur.	Lattayat ..	Last date of Chait	1,000
	Faizpur Badaria.	Bhogpur, Mazra Salem-pur.	Debi-ki-zat ...	Every Monday, in sudi, 16th of Kuar up to 24th in Kuar, 16th of Chait up to 24th Chait, last date of every month (Puranmashi).	1,000

FAIRS, 1908.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Name of fair.	Date.	Average attendance.
Kasganj (concld.).	Faizpur Badaria.	Yaklelar ...	Bathing in the Ganges.	Every Somwati Amawas.	25,000
		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Every Lunar or Solar eclipse.	25,000
	Soron ...	Soron ...	Marag Sri ..	Aghan sudi 26th —30th.	50,000
	Sahawar	Mohanpur ...	Phul Dol ...	Chait sudi 18th ...	300
		Amanpur ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar 2nd—25th ...	200 daily.
	Bilram...	Kasganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,500 daily.
Aliganj.	Azam-nagar.	Sarai Aghat	Sanjhi ...	Bhadon sudi Puranmashi till Kuar sudi 2nd.	1,000
		Ditto ...	Tazias ...	10th Moharram ...	500
		Kenori Kherabad.	Debiji ...	Kartik badi Amawasa and Phagun sudi Puranmashi.	2,500
		Bilsare Pawayan.	Mahadeoji ...	Phagun sudi 13th..	500
		Sikandarpur Doga.	Penrath ...	Every Sunday of Magh.	500
		Aliganj ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar badi 11th to Kuar sudi 12th.	5,000
		Ditto ...	Mahabir ...	Baisakh sudi 2nd...	200
		Ditto ...	Tazias ...	10th Moharram ...	1,000
		Agonapur ...	Kalsen ...	Baisakh sudi 7th...	200
		Alipur ...	Tazias ...	10th Muharram ...	100
		Kasoli Nagla of Jaithra.	Mahadeoji ...	Chait sudi Teras...	3,000
		Akbarpur Kut.	Saluno ...	Sawan sudi Puranmashi.	400
		Ahmadpur ..	Sidhahas Jithra...	Baisakh sudi Naumi.	4,000
		Aoranth Pawayan.	Mahadeoji ...	Chait sudi 6th ...	2,000
		Jirolia ...	Mahadeoji ...	Jeth badi 5th ...	1,000
		Kak Serla ...	Debi Sewar ...	Chait sudi Puranmashi.	5,000
		Rampur ...	Debiji ...	Chait sudi 9th ...	1,500
		Maghola ...	Sidh Baba ...	Baisakh sudi Puranmashi.	750
	Patiali ...	Dundwaraganj.	Khan Zamanpur...	Pus sudi 2nd ...	15,00
	Nidhpur	Nardauli ...	Debiji ...	Chait sudi 8th ... and Kuar sudi 9th.	300
		Kadirganj ...	Urs Reta Shah ...	15th to 20th Zikad	7,000
		Ditto ...	Mela Gangaji ...	Kartik sudi Puranmashi.	1,000

FAIRS, 1908.—*(concluded.)*

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Name of fair.	Date.	Average attendance.
Aliganj (*concld.*)	Nidhpur	Nondi Fatahabad.	Mela Gangaji ...	Jeth sudi 10th and Kartik sudi Puranmashi and 12th to Aghan badi Jeth.	3,000
Jalesar.	Jalesar	Awa ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar sudi 2nd to Kuar Sudi 10th.	1,500
			Dasehra ...	Kuar sudi 10th ...	3,000
			Holi Festival ...	Chet sudi 2nd ...	2,000
		Jalesar ...	Urs Saiyid ...	21st to 25th Shaham.	5,000
			Ibrahim ...	Ditto ...	

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